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VOLUME LXII, NUMBER 18822

THE JERUSALEM POST

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1994 • KISLEV 20, 5755 • II JAMAD 19, 1415

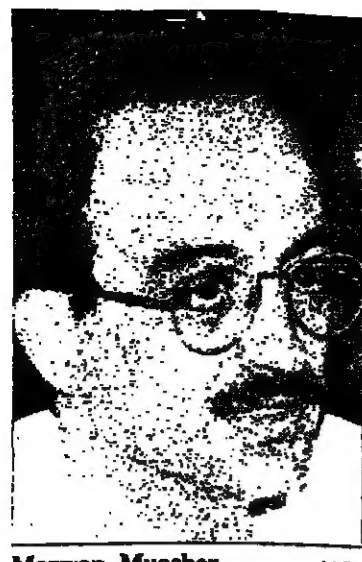
JORDAN 3 Days \$170
EGYPT 4 Days \$79 see last page
MAZADA TOURS

NIS 3.70 (EILAT NIS 3.20)

IDF fears major attack in Gaza Friday

Cairo pact limits what we can do at Netzarim, says Mofaz

ALON PINKAS and DAN IZENBERG



Marwan Muasher (AP)

Muasher mooted as Jordan's first ambassador

DAVID MAKOVSKY

JORDAN will name Marwan Muasher, spokesman of its peace delegation, as its first ambassador to Israel, according to reports from Amman quoting Jordanian officials.

An official announcement of the establishment of diplomatic ties is expected on Sunday, with embassies opening in Tel Aviv and Amman possibly as soon as December 11.

An Israeli diplomatic source attributed Muasher's selection to his close ties with Prime Minister Abdel Salam Majali.

Neither Muasher or Israeli officials were willing to confirm the reports.

Before returning to Jordan early this year, where he split his time between the peace negotiations and the family chemical business, Muasher, 38, had served as head of information at the Jordanian embassy in Washington since 1989.

In the aftermath of the 1991 Madrid peace conference, he became accessible to Israeli journalists, becoming highly regarded for his polished, non-polemical approach toward the peace talks.

"He is one of the brightest guys I have met. I've known him since Madrid. It is a very good choice," said Yossi Gal, deputy Foreign Ministry director for communications and spokesman for the peace negotiations.

Muasher, who graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, is a computer scientist and a former member of the Israeli Air Force.

THE IDF fears that Hamas or Islamic Jihad may carry out a major attack on its positions throughout the Gaza Strip on Friday, according to an officer who accompanied Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak to the Netzarim Junction yesterday.

The officer said a planned Hamas demonstration will present a display of force in defiance of Yasser Arafat's leadership. That would almost inevitably result in disturbances, he noted, adding that Friday also marks one year since the death of Imad Akeel, a leading Hamas activist who was shot by IDF troops. A demonstration in his memory is also expected.

"The convergence of the two events may lead Hamas or Islamic Jihad to try to attack army positions. As far as they are concerned, attacking Israeli targets is the best show of political force vis-a-vis Arafat," he said.

There were two attempted attacks on Israelis in Gush Katif yesterday. An army patrol near Morag found a roadside bomb that had already exploded, and shots were fired at an observation post near Netzer Hazani. There were no casualties in either incident.

Barak spoke with the soldiers



Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak chats with reservists at the Netzarim outpost as OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz (second from left) and OC Gaza Brig.-Gen. Doron Almog (right) look on.

from the company which lost four men within a week. He was accompanied by the OC Gaza Brig.-Gen. Doron Almog and other senior officers.

OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday that the outpost at Netzarim is only one of many easy targets for terrorists.

He also said the Cairo Agree-

ment put limits on what the IDF can do to protect such positions. "We are aware of most of the professional solutions, but we cannot do everything [we could because of] the agreement," he was quoted as saying.

Mofaz was summoned to an emergency session of the committee after charges by politicians and reserve soldiers that the Netzarim outpost was not effectively

protected.

He did not rule out the possibility that troops would continue handing over control of their positions to the Palestinian Police when confronted with Palestinian rioters.

This could happen at another 20 places if the commander sees fit, he said.

Mofaz said Netzarim is not the most vulnerable target in the Gaza

Strip. "There are many places where Israelis and Palestinians cross paths," he reportedly said. "There is heavy pressure on the roads involving thousands of vehicles."

Mofaz stressed that IDF troops at Netzarim were deployed in a simple position, rather than a fortified outpost, in accordance with the Cairo Agreement.

They are there to observe the

road and provide security, but cannot stop and check Palestinian cars. Nevertheless, Mofaz said he opposed suggestions to move the position off the intersection. "It must be where it is because hundreds of Israeli cars use the road," he was quoted as saying.

He told the committee that Sgt.-Maj. Gil Dadon, the paratrooper killed on Saturday, was standing outside the position in violation of orders when the terrorists drove past and opened fire.

He also noted that the gunmen who fired on Dadon had used a Kalashnikov, not a Galil as previously reported.

Mofaz rejected charges that the soldiers at Netzarim had not been given clear orders and did not know how they should act. "The troops have clear and unambiguous orders with regard to opening fire and conduct in the field," he reportedly asserted.

He said the army had improved lighting at Netzarim and had asked the Palestinians to establish two checkpoints, north and south of the junction, and to examine Palestinian vehicles more closely. He indicated that other measures to protect the position required Palestinian agreement, since they are not included in the Cairo Agreement.

A senior Southern Command source said that the Netzarim position will be augmented, not moved.

Meanwhile, the commander of the reserve paratroop battalion deployed in Netzarim said his soldiers are "confused and indignant" over media reports concerning the casualties sustained by one of the companies.

Lt.-Col. (res.) Meir said in a television interview that soldiers are upset by "things said to the press by other soldiers, supposedly in their name."

He added that his soldiers are engaged in "a battle over control of the junction."

Settlement leaders visit Netzarim. Page 2

Palestinian policeman shot in Gaza ambush

JON IMMANUEL

GUNMEN shot and wounded a Palestinian police officer during an ambush outside his home in Gaza City last night. It was the first such attack on the Palestinian Police.

There was no claim of responsibility for the shooting, but immediate suspicion fell on Hamas gunmen taking revenge for last Friday's police shooting outside the Palestine Mosque which left 14 dead and 200 wounded. Capt. Jamal Abu Talal had been a Hamas gunman himself and was wanted by the IDF until he joined the Palestinian Police.

The shooting capped a day of unsuccessful mediation by Israeli Arab personalities looking for a formula to reconcile the Palestinian Authority and Hamas.

One mediator, Israeli Islamic movement leader Sheikh Abdullah Nimr Darwish, accused MK Taleb A-Sana of being unsuited to mediation because he prematurely disclosed that an agreement had been reached. A-Sana denied the charge.

"Who will mediate between the mediators?" asked Hadash MK Hashem Mahamid, a third mediator.

Time is short as Hamas plans a big rally in the Sejaiya neighborhood of Gaza City

ostensibly to mark the anniversary of the death of Izzadin Kassam leader Imad Akeel, shot by Israeli undercover troops. It is also a response to Monday's armed Fatah rally.

A police ban might invite defiance and a show of police force. If the police issue a permit, hundreds of armed auxiliaries from the Fatah Hawks threaten to be on hand, ensuring that dozens of Izzadin Kassam gunmen will come armed as well.

Spokesmen at an assembly attended by some 1,500 in the Islamic University in Gaza City yesterday called for a massive turnout on Friday after midday prayers.

Instead of calming the situation, "I think these Gaza rallies take us in the opposite direction to where we want to go," Mahamid told the Post.

So far Hamas has agreed to several points of a reconciliation plan. They include release of all "political" prisoners, factional cooperation, the establishment of two inquiries, declarations of peaceful intent, field committees to cool down popular anger, and compensation for families of victims and those who had their proper-

ty destroyed.

But the agreement flounders on Hamas's insistence that the Palestinian Authority take responsibility for the police killings ahead of a judicial inquiry.

"Hamas is very insistent about this. But I don't think now is the time to place responsibility," said Mahamid.

One formula touted is to have the PA admit that it is solely responsible for the security of its citizens and that the deaths of Palestinians was its security failure.

This would not directly accuse the police. Israel also factors into the equation. A leaflet yesterday signed by Fatah accused "Israeli collaborators" of firing at Palestinian police from the mosque Friday. It called for unifying ranks against the "Zionist enemy."

However, PLO media and culture department head Diab Allouh said the leaflet "is fake and a rebuttal will be distributed."

A previous leaflet blamed Hamas. The term "collaborators" is sometimes used loosely to mean one who purposely stirs up trouble among Palestinians, thus helping Israel even without active Israeli

involvement. In this sense there is wide accord in Fatah that "collaborators" initiated last week's riot by opening fire on police from the mosque. This makes the Hamas demand for a police admission of responsibility hard for Arafat to swallow.

Today, a PLO rally of support for Arafat is to be held in Jericho. "It is to show that we object to any attempt to lead us to civil war," said Jericho preventive security chief Col. Jibril Rajoub.

Jose Rosenfeld adds: Treasury spokesman Eli Yosef yesterday announced that the government will transfer NIS 25 million to the Palestinian Authority from taxes collected on behalf of the Palestinians on imports, fuel excise and value added taxes. Yosef denied that the transfer of funds was being expedited to ease the economic situation in Gaza and said that it was part of the regular cash disbursements of money the government owes the Palestinian Authority.

About two weeks ago, the government transferred NIS 11.5m. to the PA.

Arafat and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will attend a meeting of donor countries in Brussels next week on aid to Palestinian self-rule areas.

Peace said shrinking Mossad

DOUGLAS DAVIS
LONDON

THE onset of peace is already affecting the Mossad, where sections dedicated to Jordan and Gulf states are being phased out and transferred to the Foreign Ministry, according to the London-based newsletter *Foreign Report*.

"Desks handling Morocco and Tunisia will probably be next, followed, perhaps, by Syria and Lebanon," it said.

Unlike the CIA and other intelligence services, however, there are no indications yet that the Mossad is refocusing its attention on economic intelligence.

In response to regional changes, it noted, the head of the Mossad

has been pointing to the threat from Iran as a justification for continued substantial budgets, arguing it still sponsors terrorism and is seeking nuclear weapons.

According to the newsletter, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is seeking a "tough outsider" to replace the Mossad head, capable of restructuring it.

Two possible successors are reported to be Rabin's military aide Dan Yatom and military intelligence head Uri Saguy.

The Mossad chief is said to be attempting to postpone his retirement to ensure that the post goes to a serving Mossad executive.

And the winning Lotto numbers are: 8, 14, 16, 25, 28, 38, (41)

THE lucky person whose Lotto form reads 8, 14, 16, 25, 28, and 38, with the additional number of 41 is the big winner of this week's record Lotto jackpot.

Three Ashdod residents did their best to beat the Lotto odds, sending in NIS 100,000 worth of forms using a computerized system they said would guarantee covering 40 of 49 possible winning numbers. There was no word if they were among the winners of the NIS 19.3m. minimum first prize.

The three, two contractors and an athlete who has won both the Lotto and Toto first prizes, are known as big Lotto and Toto players. "We got the system from an Ashdod fellow who specializes in

Lotto and wrote a book about it," one of them said.

"They don't have a prize this big every day, so we decided to go crazy and invest more than NIS 30,000 each. I hope we're not disappointed. I've got a good feeling, but if not, your health is all that really counts."

All told, 26 million chances on 2.6 million forms were received, netting NIS 48.27 million. A record NIS 65,000 worth of Lotto forms were sold a minute yesterday, according to a Mifal Hapayis spokesman.

In yesterday's Chance drawing, the winning cards were the queen of spades, ace of hearts, ace of diamonds, and jack of clubs. (Tim)

Republicans pledge continued support for Arrow missile

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

at this time."

Israelis considered the meetings important following the stunning US elections two weeks ago that catapulted Republicans to control of both houses of Congress for the first time in 40 years.

There was also concern over recent statements by Sen. Jesse Helms, the incoming Foreign Relations Committee chairman, that foreign aid programs should be re-examined. Israel receives \$3 billion annually in US military and economic aid.

Sen. Ted Stevens, the incoming head of the Defense Appropria-

tions Subcommittee, told reporters that he and Rabin had discussed the future of the Arrow, but added that long-term cooperation "remains to be seen. We don't have enough information to make a decision on that."

"We told him that as far as our committee is concerned, we didn't expect any change in the positions as expressed by [current chairman] Sen. [Daniel] Inouye, as compared to the way I'll express it in the coming year. We are going to do our best to fulfill our commitments to Israel."

Inouye has been one of Congress's most vocal Arrow proponents.

After meeting with Rabin, Livingston told *The Jerusalem Post*

that the US's foreign aid program "is going to be under scrutiny and to the extent that we can economize, or lessen the burden on the American taxpayer, we wish to do so - but not at the expense of the security of Israel."

Livingston said Congress would maintain aid to Israel for as long as the peace process continues with the hope that prosperity will not necessitate future aid.

On Monday, President Bill Clinton promised Rabin he would press Congress to continue current levels of aid and deepen cooperation on the Arrow.

Rabin leaves Washington this morning for brief stops in Canada and Spain.

PM: Syria not doing enough, Page 2

Dow drops sharply

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks collapsed yesterday, as Wall Street faced a selling frenzy which was fostered by jitters that rising interest rates could stum the economy and cripple corporate earnings.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended down a steep 91.52 points, or 2.43 percent, at 3,677.99, based on early and unofficial data.

TASE down 2.91%, Page 9



'Palestinian terrorists active in Lebanon'

DAVID RUDGE

PALESTINIAN terrorists aided by Hizbullah and under Syrian patronage were responsible for the most recent attacks on IDF and South Lebanese Army troops in the security zone, outgoing OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai declared yesterday.

Two gunmen believed to have been from Nalf Hawatmeh's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine were killed by SLA troops in the Bint J'bal area, in the western sector of the zone, after midnight Monday.

Meanwhile, members of George Habash's PFLP group claimed responsibility for the ambush of an IDF patrol east of Talousa, in the central sector, earlier on Monday. Five soldiers from the Golani brigade were lightly wounded in that attack.

Mordechai said the Palestinian groups were receiving equipment and intelligence services from Hizbullah, which was also helping them to infiltrate the area.

He charged that the radical Palestinian groups were under Syrian patronage and that they were being used to carry out operations which usually increased whenever there were important political developments.

Nevertheless, he stressed that the attackers were paying a high price for their operations. "I recommend they learn some figures."

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The weekly meeting of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today, 1 p.m., at the YMCA, King David Street. Jeff Green, book critic of *The Jerusalem Post*, will discuss "Half a Baker."

Yesterday, a tree was planted in the Weizmann Institute's Youth Activities Section, and a meeting was held in its Schmidt Auditorium, to honor the memory of the late Prof. Joseph (Joe) Gillis. Speaking at the meeting were Institute President Haim Harari, Prof. Uri Ganiel, Zvi Arstein, and Benjamin Geiger. A lecture on "What Is the Use of Teaching Profits?" was delivered by Prof. John Webb, University of Cape Town.

This year, 94 terrorists have been killed by the IDF and the SLA and many more have been wounded," said Mordechai.

"This month alone, nine terrorists have been killed and others wounded. The Palestinian group that was guided by Hizbullah on Sunday fled from the scene of the clash leaving behind its arms in the field, and it's very probable they had casualties."

"Two Palestinian terrorists who were sent by Hizbullah were killed (by SLA troops) in a clash on Monday night and yesterday morning. This is the price that those who are trying to hit the zone and the SLA are having to pay," said Mordechai.

He spoke at a ceremony at the Voice of the South radio station inside the security zone yesterday to mark the 51st anniversary of Lebanon's independence.

SLA deputy commander Col. Akel Hashem, who also attended the ceremony, said the clash after midnight Monday occurred in the Bint J'bal area when SLA troops spotted suspicious movement and opened fire.

"At first light (yesterday morning), another force went to search the area and found one body with a Kalashnikov rifle. They continued and clashed with another terrorist nearby who tried to open fire but the soldiers opened fire first and killed him," said Hashem.

SLA commander Gen. Antoine Lahad stressed that despite the fact that Lebanon was celebrating its independence, his country was still not free and that the country was really controlled from Damascus.

Lahad said the time had come for all foreign forces, Syria as well as Israel, to pull out of Lebanon and leave the Lebanese to the task of rehabilitating their country and achieving real independence.



OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai (right) and SLA commander Gen. Antoine Lahad celebrate the 51st anniversary of Lebanese independence yesterday at a party sponsored by the Voice of the South radio.

Settlement heads vow to bring more people to Netzarim

HERB KEINON

SETTLEMENT leaders visited Netzarim yesterday to see how they can strengthen the settlement amid calls for it to be dismantled, and vowed to settle another 12 families there by the end of the year.

"There are now 31 families in Netzarim," said Uri Ariel, head of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza. "There are some 12 empty houses, and already a number of families have shown an interest [in moving there]. I estimate that by the end of the year there will be a shortage of homes in Netzarim."

Ariel went to Netzarim yesterday with council spokesman Aharon Domb, activist Meir Merhav, and Ze'ev Hever, director of Amana, the Gush Emunim-affiliated movement that is responsible for the settlement. Amana took over responsibility for Netzarim in 1992, after the Kibbutz Hachad movement pulled out.

Responding to Shimon Peres's characterization of the settlement

Monday as a thorn, Domb said, "It is not a thorn, but a rose. We have decided that we will strengthen and continue to develop this settlement."

Domb said the council will make an effort to bring MKs, rabbis, settlement leaders and "ordinary people" to see the settlement because "we don't think people in the national camp realize what a symbol Netzarim is."

"If Netzarim is uprooted, it would be a symbol of surrender in the face of terror," Domb said.

Gaza Coast Regional Council spokeswoman Dalia Hershkovitz said that although it is obvious the council supports Netzarim, the visit was important because "until now the council has not spoken out that much about the settlement."

"Until now Netzarim has felt very much on its own," Hershkovitz said. "This type of activity gives the settlement needed moral support."

Hefetz meets with Palestinian Police chief

RAINE MARCUS

POLICE Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz met yesterday with Palestinian Police chief Gen. Yusuf Nasser to discuss future cooperation between the two forces.

This is the first meeting between the two, who discussed possible cooperation in fighting drug dealing, recovering stolen vehicles, conducting border and joint patrols and finding ways to join forces to combat crime.

Hefetz said he was interested in building a positive and beneficial relationship between the two forces based on mutual trust and good will.

The Israeli police, said Hefetz, will make every effort to help their Palestinian counterparts in the war against crime.

"It's important to develop rela-

tions and a dialogue between the two forces, especially during hard times," said Hefetz.

Nasser also expressed willingness to cooperate with the Israeli police. "We have a peace process and are obliged to abide by it," he said, during a tour of police headquarters. "We must now operate for the well-being of both the Israeli and Palestinian populations."

Car thefts are apparently high on the list of priorities - stolen vehicles are often transferred to Gaza where they are either dismantled and the spare parts sold or license plates are replaced.

Police in Gaza complained recently that they do not have sufficient equipment - weapons, walkie-talkies and police vehicles - to do their duty.

Orr, Sharon, Kahalani want Cairo deal changed

DAN IZENBERG

THE Cairo Agreement should be modified, three leading members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, chairman Ori Orr (Labor), Ariel Sharon (Likud), and Avigdor Kahalani (Labor) agreed yesterday.

They concurred that, in its present form, the agreement puts the lives of Israeli soldiers and civilians at unacceptable risk, as evidenced by the two fatal attacks at Netzarim Junction in the past two weeks.

Sharon, who has become the Likud's most vociferous critic of the security situation in the Gaza Strip, said that "as a result of a political agreement, reached hastily and irresponsibly, we have reached a state of affairs where soldiers are left completely unprotected in an IDF position."

He charged that despite the two incidents, nothing has been done to strengthen the outpost, and that the lives of the troops there and elsewhere in the Gaza Strip are still at risk.

He urged the responsible authorities to move the position away from the junction, and to

build earth ramparts and a fence around it. All these measures apparently require Palestinian agreement, according to the Cairo Agreement.

Orr charged that Sharon wants to reoccupy the Gaza Strip by building IDF fortifications throughout the area. However, he acknowledged that the current arrangements had to be changed to increase the safety of troops in the Gaza Strip.

"We have gained experience since the signing of the Cairo Agreement," he said. "There are a number of problems which the agreement does not resolve. We must sit down with the Palestinians immediately to see how we can solve them."

Orr said that one change he would like to see is the physical separation of Israeli and Palestinian positions. A key factor in the decision to leave the Netzarim out-

post to the Palestinian police during the weekend riots was that the two sides shared the position and the army wanted to avoid a situation where in the confusion of events, Israeli and Palestinian forces ended up shooting at each other.

Orr said some of the understandings between the Israelis and Palestinians could be reached by local commanders. But he agreed with Sharon that the question of making changes in the Cairo Agreement was a political one that was not in the hands of the army.

Kahalani pointed out that while military officers had negotiated the security terms of the Cairo Agreement, "I can understand that the experience of the past six months has revealed unanticipated problems."

The changes required are relatively small, he said. They involve moving the position a few meters, fencing it, and the repositioning of the soldiers.

The United Israel Appeal of Canada

המגבית המאוחדת לישראל בקנדה

its Officers and Staff

are deeply saddened by the passing of
ISRAEL KOSCHITZKY ז"ל

and extend heartfelt condolences
to the family.

Gerald Halbert, President
Max Blankstein, Chairman, IRC
Steven Ahn, Executive Vice President
Amnon Shinhart, Director-General

To his wife, Golda Koschitzky
his sons, Shaul and Chaim Koschitzky
his grandchildren, great-grandchildren
and the entire Koschitzky family,

we extend our deepest condolences
on the passing of the head of the Koschitzky family

ISRAEL KOSCHITZKY ז"ל

The Yael Software Group

The People of Metulla mourn the passing of
ISRAEL KOSCHITZKY

and extend their deepest sympathy
to his son and daughter-in-law
Henry and Julia Koschitzky
and their family

Yossi Goldberg,
Mayor of Metulla

We mourn for our beloved husband, father, grandfather
and great-grandfather

ISRAEL KOSCHITZKY ז"ל

The funeral will take place today, Wednesday, November 23, 1994
(20 Kislev 5755)

at 1:00 p.m., at the Eretz Hachaim Cemetery,
Migash Shimshon, near Beit Shemesh.

Buses will leave from Binyanei Ha'uma at 12:15 p.m.
Shiva will be in Room 623 at the Laromme Hotel.

The Family

Rabin: Syria rejecting all our offers

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday accused the Syrians of rejecting all offers made to them and of not providing the Israeli public with sufficient confidence-building measures during the peace process.

"I think we have done, in actuality and in gestures, exceptional things. [But] I haven't seen Syrian expressions against terror or heard Syria detailing its willingness for peace," Rabin said.

"We as well as the Americans have tried," Rabin told Israeli journalists.

"I believe [Syrian President Hafez] Assad wants peace - who doesn't want peace? The problem is what is required for peace and what is demanded as the price...The problem is that I'm not sure the peace he wants is the one we want, and the price of peace is one we still can't accept."

Gaza produce to be allowed in

PRODUCE from Gaza will be allowed into Israel if it is grown in properly organized greenhouses and passes Health Ministry tests, the Agriculture and Health ministries and their Palestinian colleagues decided yesterday.

Following last month's cholera outbreak, the Health Ministry decided to ban the import of fruits and vegetables from Gaza. The first batch of tomatoes is scheduled to arrive tomorrow.

Gali Lipkis Beck

We announce with deep sorrow the death of
YOHANNA (Hanna) BENSCHER

Daughter: Ruth Braun and family
Son: Zvi Benschler and family (USA)
Daughter-in-law: Bobbi Benschler and family (England)
Brother: Heinz Lipton and family
and families Bach, Wanderer, Lee, Naor, Greenberg.

Funeral details, please call 02-636381, 02-347111

The Editor and Staff of
Ariel Magazine
are grieved by the death of the poet

T. CARMİ ז"ל

and share in the family's sorrow.

The Staff and Students of
The Program for Advanced Studies
in Integrative Psychotherapy
of
The Martin Buber Center for Continuing Education,
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
send their condolences to
Prof. Israel Charny and Family
on the loss of his brother
T. CARMİ (Charny)

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Original Music

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THE SKIES ARE OPEN
EL VALLE

Bosnian gets 8 years for war crimes

COPENHAGEN (Reuters) - A Danish court yesterday sentenced Refic Saric, a Bosnian Muslim, to eight years in jail for torturing prisoners of war to death in a Croat-run prison camp in Bosnia last year.

The Copenhagen regional court's verdict was the first in a series of war crimes trials being held outside former Yugoslavia.

The court found Saric, 31, guilty on 14 counts of gross violence, two leading to deaths.

He was taken prisoner along with other Muslim army volunteers in July 1993 but was promoted to guard duty in the camp at Dretelj, near Mostar.

Saric was recognised by former camp inmates after he sought asylum in Denmark, but claimed to be a victim of mistaken identity.

In Sabac, Yugoslavia, two Serbian brothers accused of murder, rape, robbery and firearms offences while members of the paramilitary "Yellow Wasps" unit appeared in court yesterday as Yugoslavia's own first war crimes trial opened.

Dusko Vuckovic, aged 30, and his brother Vojin, 32, from the village of Umka, south of Belgrade, appeared before the district court in the northern Serbian town of Sabac.

Dusko, a stocky man with an acne-ravaged face and his hair tied in a pony-tail, is charged with using an automatic rifle to murder 16 Muslims and wound 20 others in northeastern Bosnia in 1992, when Serb ethnic cleansing was getting into full swing.

He is also charged with having raped and robbed a Muslim woman during the early days of the Bosnian war and of having chopped off a Muslim prisoner's ear during interrogation.

He admitted he was twice institutionalised for alcoholism and discharged from the former Yugoslav Federal army in the mid 1980s as a psychopath.

The prosecution alleges that although he was drunk when the offences were committed, the crimes were premeditated. He has been in Sabac prison since his arrest a year ago.

The news agency Tanjug said that under questioning he had admitted to seven murders.

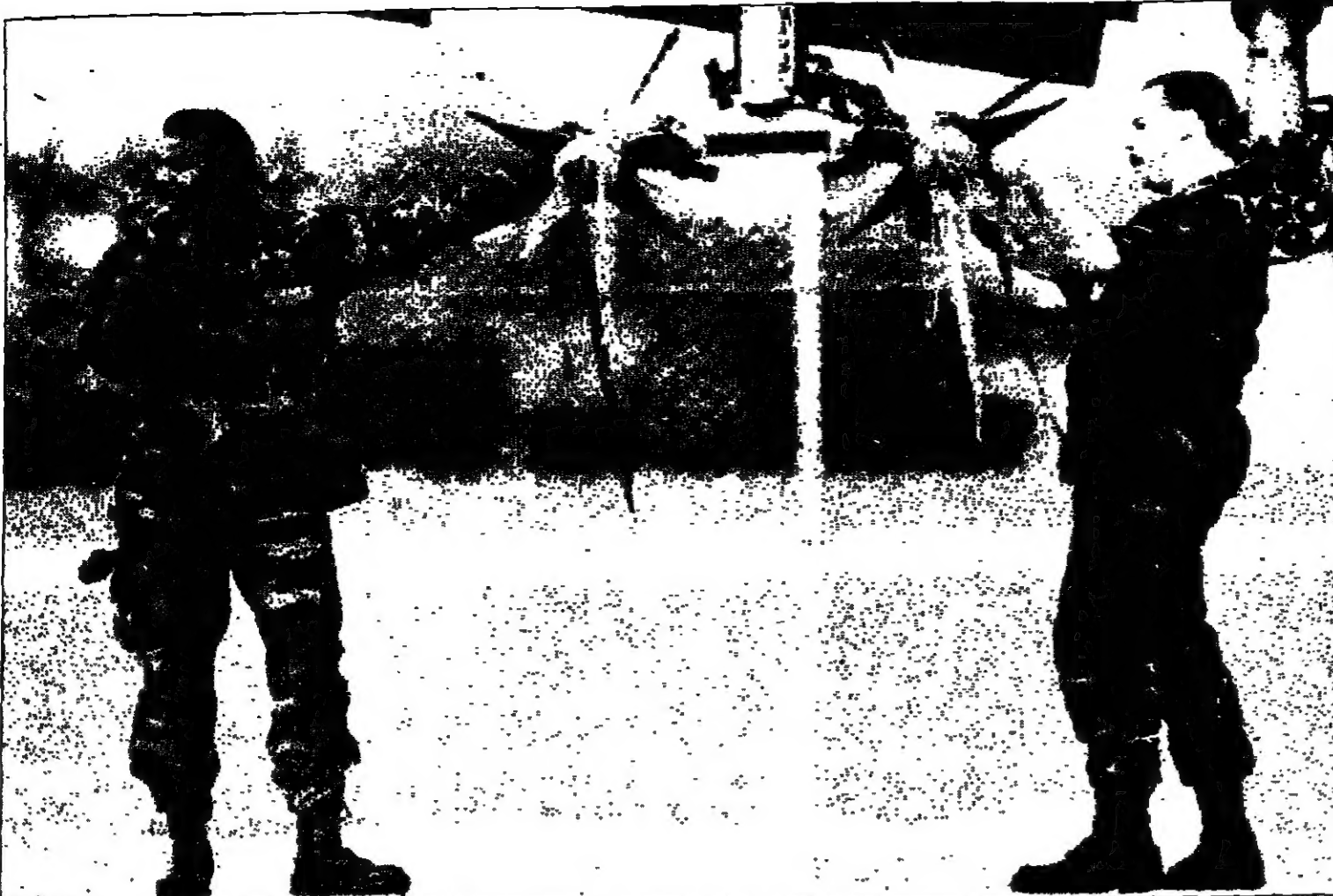
Dusko pleaded not guilty to all charges, saying he had confessed under threat of being put in front of a firing squad.

"I feared for my life. I would have signed anything," he said. His brother Vojin, who was the wartime commander of the "Yellow Wasps" unit, is accused of lesser offences - illegal possession of arms and false identity.

The independent Belgrade weekly *Vreme* said the trial was expected to bring about a change in the public's attitude to the various paramilitary units which had hitherto been seen as having "fought for the liberation of the Serbs" in Bosnia.

Vreme said of the Yellow Wasps: "What the unit's purpose was has never been publicly admitted, but there was speculation they were 'ethnic cleansers' allowed to rape and plunder in return for their efforts."

Other Belgrade media said the Yellow Wasps fell out with Bosnian Serb authorities because they refused to be put under their command and slipped back to Serbia with their booty.



US Air Force technicians check an A-10 close-support aircraft armed with air-to-ground missiles at the Italian NATO air base of Aviano after the plane returned from a reconnaissance mission over Bosnia. (AP)

Serbs fire missiles at British jets, close in on Bosnian enclave of Bihac

News agencies
SARAJEVO

SERB forces pressed home their attack on Bosnia's Bihac enclave and two British jet fighters came under missile fire yesterday, less than 24 hours after a punitive NATO raid on a Serb air base.

Two British Sea Harrier jets were fired on by missiles over Serb-held territory, a NATO spokesman said.

"It would appear that two Sea Harriers were subject to being fired on by missiles over northern Bosnia in the area near Banja Luka," said a spokesman at NATO Southern Europe headquarters in Naples. The aircraft were not hit.

Serb ground troops, defying the NATO airstrike, meanwhile closed in on the besieged enclave of northwest Bosnia yesterday, leaving burning villages and thousands of terrified refugees in their wake.

UN officials accused the Serbs of using a helicopter gunship, a violation of the UN ban on military flights over Bosnia, in the assault.

The attacks came a day after jets from four NATO nations, including Britain, struck at a rebel Serb airbase in Croatia in the alliance's biggest attack in its 45 year history.

Banja Luka, Bosnia's second city, lies at

the heart of Serb-held territory in the north of the republic and is the site of a major air base.

The United States issued a warning that NATO would strike again against the Serbs unless they stopped attacking Bihac.

A senior United Nations official said two people had been killed and four wounded in the NATO attack on Udbina air base.

UN civil affairs deputy chief Colum Murphy dismissed criticism of the limited military effect of the attack, saying it was vital to keep open lines of communication to the Serbs.

"One is constantly trying to tread that thin blue line where you don't damage communication with the warring parties," Murphy said.

The raid, seen as sending a political message to the Serbs, avoided attacking Serb aircraft on the ground and NATO conceded the air base could be reopened before very long.

A Serbian technical expert estimated the runway at Udbina could be repaired in less than 24 hours.

Serb troops continued their advance across the Bihac enclave. "In the area of Gata Ildiza, it is believed the attacking forces were supported by tanks and a helicopter which fired rockets into BiH (Bosnian army) positions," a United Nations source said.

The local UN commander said the Serbs were pushing hundreds of Bihac refugees before them and leaving a trail of burning villages in their wake.

"There is fighting in the southwest of the valley, through Croat villages that are now burning," Colonel Jean Charles Lemieux, the UN military commander in Bihac, told Reuters by telephone late on Monday.

"There are refugees on the road from west to east," he said. "I've seen (artillery) impacts come down in their villages - the valley was full of smoke."

The Canadian colonel said Serb heavy weapons of all sorts including tanks were being used in the attack on Bihac.

The International Committee of the Red Cross said about 2,000 people displaced by the fighting had fled to Bihac town. Red Cross warehouses in the Bihac enclave had run out of food, spokeswoman Lisa Jones said.

Helms taunts Clinton in interview

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Senator Jesse Helms, unrepentant over the furor he raised by saying President Bill Clinton was not up to being commander-in-chief, has said Clinton had "better have a bodyguard" if he goes to military bases in North Carolina.

In an interview with the Raleigh, North Carolina, *News and Observer*, Helms said Clinton was extremely unpopular at military bases in the senator's home state.

"Mr Clinton better watch out if he comes down here. He'd better have a bodyguard," the Republican senator was quoted as saying.

The paper quoted Helms as saying soldiers disliked Clinton because he avoided service in the Vietnam War, supported homosexuals in the military and had cut defense spending.

The November 8 elections that cost the Democrats the Senate and House have put Helms in line to be the next chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Last week, Helms, said Clinton was not up to the commander-in-chief's job. He told an interviewer: "Well, you ask an honest question: I'll give you an honest answer. No I do not. And neither do people in the armed forces."

Banking havens less secure but launderers still ahead

NAPLES (AP) - Some of the banking havens used for organized crime income are becoming less secure, but experts are pressing for more concerted action to help keep up with the money trail.

One of the key planks of a draft document under consideration at a UN conference here yesterday on organized crime deals with how to make financial operations more transparent and those who conduct them more accountable.

Argentina, for example, is pushing to pressure tax havens to tighten up their procedures.

Part of the problem, experts say, is that the money-making mobsters got a big jump on law enforcement in figuring out how to put financial institutions to work for them.

Many nations don't consider money-laundering a crime.

"Laundering just isn't the kind of crime that stirs up social alarm," said Mauro Falsiedi, an officer for the international police organization INTERPOL who specializes in money-laundering investigations.

Among the 136 nations with delegations at the three-day meeting in this capital of organized crime are several whose own banking systems persistently frustrate investigators.

Launderers go where there are few, or no questions asked - from the discreet salons of Alpine banks to steamy Caribbean and South Pacific island countries.

Some countries are making reforms. One of them is Austria, a gateway to Eastern Europe, which since the fall of East bloc communism has become fertile territory for investments or deposits of billions of dollars, much of it suspected organized crime income.

At the start of this year, new regulations ended anonymity for foreign depositors in Austrian banks. Banks are also obliged to train employees to pick up the scent of "dirty" money, and more importantly, are now obliged to report suspect transactions.

"My personal feeling was that banks were used to secrecy and they weren't going to report suspicious activity, an Austrian justice ministry official, Roland Miklau, said in an interview during the conference.

Now, he said, banks reported suspicious transactions totalling about \$17 billion in the first nine months of this year.

Investigators are trying to sort out if the money was legally obtained, if it came from tax evasion from otherwise honest citizens or if it was mobsters' income.

Bobbitt's porn movie released

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The man with the most famous penis in America is likely to make hundreds of thousands of dollars as star of the new hard-core porno video, *John Wayne Bobbitt Uncut*.

Bobbitt, whose penis was reattached by a team of surgeons after his wife Lorena cut it off with a kitchen knife, appears with six women in the \$59.95 flick, which is selling out at video stores across the country.

The world apparently really wants to take a peek at the most-discussed reattached penis in contemporary history. In these tabloid times, the tattooed ex-Marine not only shows his famous private part and shows that it is working, but also tells of the fateful night that changed his life.

"We've shipped over 42,000 units, which is huge. Normally we ship only 5,000," said Cathy Green of Leisure Time Entertainment, a major supplier and distributor of adult videos.

Aaron Gordon, Bobbitt's manager, claims *Uncut* had "the biggest opening month in the history of adult videos. It's grossed 3 million bucks already."

According to Green, *Uncut* is a cut above the rest.

"Most of our videos are wall-to-wall sex. This has much more story than most," she said.

The "story" of *Uncut* is described as "an adult fantasy based on actual events of Bobbitt's life."

Angola cease-fire after 19 years of war

LESLEY WROUGHTON
LUANDA

A CEASE-FIRE was declared in Angola yesterday but serious doubts remained over whether the peace would hold after 19 years of ruinous civil war in which hundreds of thousands have died.

The cease-fire has started throughout the country at this hour according to the Lusaka Protocol. Angolan state radio reported at 1 p.m., referring to peace accords signed in the Zambian capital on Sunday.

Earlier Lopo Ferreira, secretary-general of the ruling MPLA, said government forces, which expected UNITA rebels to carry on fighting, would remain vigilant.

"We can expect...violations will happen," he told the radio.

Despite weeks of negotiations and premature reports of cease-fires and truces, the United Nations appeared unprepared for the official end to the war, saying it would be unable to monitor it until hundreds of observers were sent.

"We have five UN stations in Angola in non-active zones...but we have no way of verifying if there is a violation," a UN official told Reuters.

"We have plans to bring about 600 military observers and police to Angola but this cannot be done overnight...I have no idea when this will happen."

Ferreira said the Angolan government hoped the cease-fire would be properly implemented and enforced.

"We still hope that the cease-

fire can be implemented...Hope will grow as the cease-fire is properly implemented. Our hope cannot stop us being vigilant though," he said, adding the international community should put pressure on UNITA.

The government said UNITA rebels attacked the town of Calcolo on Sunday and the northern city of Uige on Monday, the night before the cease-fire.

Government forces captured Uige from UNITA last week in what the rebels said was a violation of a truce aimed at facilitating Sunday's signing of the peace pact ending the 19-year war.

There have been no reports of fighting since Monday night when the United Nations reminded government and rebels of the need to honour their commitments to peace and the cease-fire.

"The council reminds the parties of the responsibilities they bear to respect fully the cease-fire agreement which is to go into effect on November 22, 1994," said a statement read at a UN Security Council meeting in New York.

The peace accord was signed in Lusaka, but not, as originally planned, by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and rebel leader Jonas Savimbi, who said government attacks on UNITA made it unsafe for him to travel. Lower-ranked officials signed on behalf of both parties.

In Lusaka, military delegations from both sides met again yesterday to hammer out technical details of the cease-fire.

(Reuters)

Mandela supports export of South African arms

JOHANNESBURG (AP) - President Nelson Mandela sent a clear signal yesterday his government would continue selling arms to raise money for its ambitious development plan.

Opening a defense industry exposition in South Africa, Nobel Peace laureate Mandela told more than 1,000 people the international weapons industry possessed advanced technology that could help the government's multibillion-dollar reconstruction and development plan.

The international community was committed to helping, "not in the form of handouts, but through investment, trade and other mutually beneficial relations," he said.

But Mandela also said South Africa's arms industry must reform itself by complying with international norms and standards and making its activities more transparent.

Under apartheid, South Africa faced a UN arms embargo and developed a powerful weapons industry. It conducted its business in secret, a practice that continued after Mandela's African National Congress won the nation's first all-race election in April to end apartheid.

Public outcry over a bungled deal to ship AK-47 assault rifles and ammunition to Yemen brought widespread calls for reforms. Some critics, including Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, say South Africa should cur-

tail its weapons-building and sales.

"When you think that you can overcome an evil system, a system that used these same weapons against us...it's said that he (Mandela) should be there giving it a moral authority that it does not deserve," Tutu, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his anti-apartheid stance, recently told Associated Press Television.

Yesterday, Mandela stood at attention as military jets and helicopters flew overhead and soldiers paraded before him to open the exposition promoting South Africa's advanced arms technology, such as the Rooivalk attack helicopter.

His appearance and comments were an attempt to allay fears in the military that the new black-led government would slash defense spending in favor of social programs.

By supporting continued arms trade, Mandela signaled he wanted to exploit South Africa's leading export industry to improve the lives of impoverished blacks despite the stigma associated with weapons selling.

South African officials have disclosed weapons sold to Rwanda until late 1993 may have been used in the ethnic slaughter there this year. South African arms also are believed to have been used in conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, the Middle East and elsewhere in Africa.

Frenzied man tries to storm flight deck of British jumbo

LONDON (Reuters) - A man twice tried to storm the flight deck of a British Airways jumbo jet after he "freaked out" and wanted to get off as it prepared to land at London's Heathrow Airport yesterday.

The man was wrestled to the ground by stewards on the flight from Brisbane, Australia, to London and taken into police custody once the Boeing 747-400 landed, police said.

London's *Evening Standard* said that with three hours of the flight remaining, the man burst through the business class section

of the jumbo into the front of the plane, where cabin crew calmed him down and escorted him back to his seat.

Some time later, the same man charged up the steps towards the cockpit on the upper deck before he was tackled.

A police spokesman said the man, in his 30s, "freaked out" after being in the air for more than 20 hours.

"He was taken into custody for his own safety following the disturbance," the spokesman said. "He became frightened and wanted to get off the plane."



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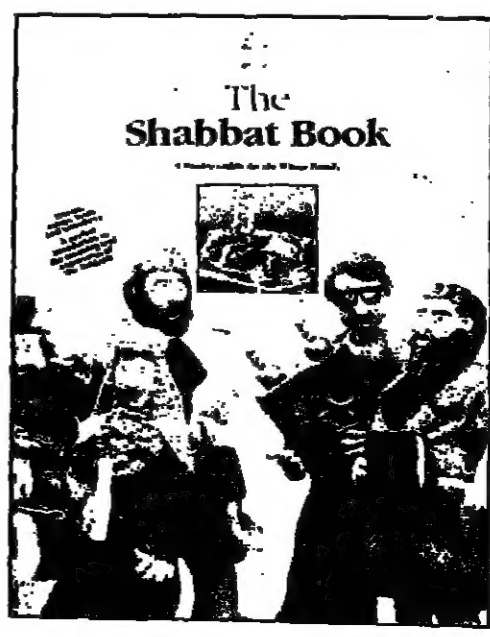
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Arabs fear a world in which modernity is Western

ISLAM AND DEMOCRACY: Fear of the Modern World by Fatima Mernissi. Addison-Wesley. 195 pp. \$10.95.

ISLAM AND MODERNITIES by Aziz Al-Azmeh. Verso. 157 pp. \$34.95.

THE Koran, long utilized to pacify the masses and keep them quiet, is taking its revenge on those who have manipulated it.

It has become, as it began, a force for the destabilization of privilege, whether regional or global.

This is only one of many deep and useful insights scattered in Fatima Mernissi's *Islam and Democracy*, a rare mix of personal reflections and scholarly writing interspersed with fascinating fragments of autobiography.

The book, which offers much more than just an answer to the question of why democracy has failed to take root in the Arab world, is written in a rather discursive, fairly disorganized manner which may be uncomfortable for academic, deductive minds.

But it is a courageous and thoughtful book, which makes up for that.

Mernissi, who teaches sociology at Mohammed the Fifth University

in Rabat, Morocco, hails from an observant Moslem family. Though she would appear to be thoroughly Westernized — especially considering her work on the subject of women in Islam — Mernissi nevertheless has some scathing things to say about the West.

One example: "The feeling of absurdity that pervades our lives today stems from the fact that modernity reminds us every minute that it is Western."

Since the night of July 20, 1969, she writes, "when a tall blond man planted the flag of his nation on it, the moon is not universal." Following the planting of the American flag, the world was treated to a quotation from the first chapter of Genesis.

"It is," Mernissi comments, "a given that the West, which flaunts before us the dream of one world, bears responsibility for the future of humanity. Its responsibility is heavy because it alone decides if satellites will be used to educate Arabs or to drop bombs on them."

"It is understandable and even excusable that the Third World, off course and unable to participate in the celebration of science, seeks to find its way by drawing on myths and historical memory."

But when the West, which is opening the way toward the galac-

tic era, trots out tribal flags and Bibles to inaugurate man's exploration of the moon, it does not help the excluded, among them Arab youth, feel they are partners in this universalism.

Having said all this, Mernissi adds that it is "obvious" that the powerful, monolithic West that haunts Arab and Third World imaginations "is more fiction than fact, especially in the decade of the Nineties, since the fall of the Berlin Wall."

Nevertheless, "seen from the Arab side of the Mediterranean, the West (more exactly, Europe), however splintered and divided it may be, is a power that crushes us, besieges our markets, and controls our interest, resources, initiatives, and potentialities."

In a chapter entitled "Fear of the Foreign West," Mernissi explains that the word *gharb*, which is Arabic for the West, is also the place of darkness and the incomprehensible, always frightening.

It is "the territory of the strange, the foreign (*gharibi*)," and foreignness in Arabic has a very strong spatial connotation,

gharb being the place where the sun sets and where darkness awaits. "It is in the West that the night snaps up the sun and swallows it; then all terrors are possible."

AZIZ AL-AZMEH perceives more than one kind of Islam, as the title of his book indicates.

As he points out in a long and somewhat plodding prologue, the essays and papers assembled in *Islamic and Modernities* "derive from the contention that there are as many Islams as there are situations that sustain it."

The conflict between fundamentalist Islam and the West — highlighted, among other incidents, by the *fatwa* on novelist Salman Rushdie — is not as impossible to resolve as it is usually made out to be.

The reason is that behind both positions lie "similarly romantic and ahistorical notions of Islamic culture and of the West itself.... Both sides speak the same language of ancestral authenticity and identity."

The result of these symmetrical

world views, Al-Azmeh asserts, is a cultist essentialism which he considers "a postmodern form of racism."

The history of Islam, he argues, and the complexity of modern world systems belie both the homogenizing claims of Islamic radicalism and the Western discourse of Orientalism.

In support of this position, Al-Azmeh highlights the plurality and historicity of both Islam and the West.

Turning to the thorny subjects of Islamic fundamentalism and the various ways in which contemporary Moslems have tried to meet the challenge of the West, Al-Azmeh writes that, in terms of the rules governing their respective discourses, the difference between the Moslem modernists and their fundamentalist counterparts "resides in their attitudes to the translatability of traditional texts."

The hallmark of Islamic modernism, he explains, is "its admission of the possibility, even the necessity, of such translation."

Thus *shura* (counsel) becomes democracy, even parliamentary

democracy; Islam becomes a character of socialism.

The cosmic calamities indicated in the early, apocalyptic chapters of the Koran become premonitions of modern scientific discoveries.

For the fundamentalists, however, Islam is sui generis.

It is therefore "totally unrelated to democracy, especially parliamentary democracy, and any talk of relating it to socialism is polluting by implication, for the term 'socialism' is contiguous with communism, and communism is atheistic, and neither socialism nor democracy occurs in the Koran or the salutary tradition."

Translation is thus totally precluded, and the utopia which is sought by the fundamentalists "is a literalist one whose institutions have already been fully established."

Thus the present becomes "no more than a shadow of unreality in comparison with the full ontological weight of the salutary example."

In the discourse of fundamentalism it is rarely referred to, being in some way regarded as "a register running parallel to itself," in the discourse of Islamic fundamentalism, indeed, discussion of matters that occurred in the time

of the Prophet "takes the form of a metonymic representation of present realities."

The thrust of Al-Azmeh's argument is fairly clear: Islamic fundamentalism represents a break with some crucial aspects of Moslem tradition and should be seen as a characteristically modernist phenomenon, drawing on themes commonly encountered in the discourse of romantic populism and subaltern nationalism.

In a way, Al-Azmeh's approach can be perceived from the counsel he gives to Western students of Islam.

Any proper account of Islamic history, he writes in his concluding essay, "has to rest on the dissolution of Islam as an orientalist category."

European Islamic scholarship, he adds, "will have to start with putting into question the very notion of objectivity itself — or rather, to regard it as a historical category and as a historical and discursive problem."

It has "to liberate itself from Islam, and scrutinize Islamic histories, societies, economies, temporalities, sociology, critical theory and anthropology." Only then will Islam be reconstituted "as historical categories amenable to historical study."

Sanctions, religious coercion drive Christians out of Iraq

NEIL MACFARQUHAR
BAGHDAD

In an Aramaic-related tongue, read from texts that look like ancient Hebrew, Baghdad's churches echo their liturgy. There are special prayers for relief from the economic devastation wrought by the international blockade.

For many in the nearly 2,000-year-old Chaldean sect, relief from isolation and hardship means fleeing. The exodus accelerated this summer after Iraq imposed Islamic laws that include banning public consumption of alcohol and chopping off thieves' hands. Several amputations have been shown on television, Iraqis say.

"The war and the problems after the war, the embargo, the Western propaganda — they strangle the Iraqis, especially the young people. There is no work, no hope," said the Rev. Boutros Haddad, a parish priest and Chaldean Church historian.

Exact statistics are unavailable, but the Chaldean community is believed to have declined to about 600,000 Iraqis from 1 million a decade ago. That is about 3 percent of Iraq's predominantly Moslem population of 18 million.

The numbers are especially disheartening for a dwindling minority. They fear they may be set upon as the crisis deepens, and they worry Christians are not exempt from Islamic laws.

"There is freedom of prayer, but not exactly freedom for each religion," said Monsignor Emmanuel Dely, the patriarch's deputy.

Priests express concern about Christians assimilating into the Iraqi population. A law bars mixed marriages. With so many Christians men departing, an estimated 1,000 Christian women convert to Islam every year to marry Moslems.

Underlining the general instability, a bomb exploded outside a Baghdad church October 30, killing three police officers and the deacon who discovered it.

The government is alarmed at the prospect of losing Chaldeans, a pillar of the professional middle class. The Ministry of Religious Affairs asked that church sermons discourage leaving.

That seemed to have little effect. Many are still eager to head for thriving Iraqi-Christian communities in Detroit and Chicago.

"Most of us would prefer to leave Iraq, but we are too poor. It's hard to reach any country where you would really want to live," said one 28-year-old worshipping, who did not want to give his name for fear of repercussions.

The government has taken increasingly stringent measures against emigration. A passport costs 40,000 dinars. That is less than \$100 due to the Iraqi dinar's collapse, but it represents more than two years' salary for anyone earning the average Iraqi wage of 1,500 dinars a month.

Key professionals such as doctors must deposit up to 1 million dinars and usually have to sign papers forfeiting their homes if they do not return.

The middle class has been decimated by the economic collapse. A chicken costs nearly a month's wages. Many people live off government food subsidies supplemented by church rations bought with donations from the Chaldean communities in the US.

Iraq's Christian community is one of the world's oldest. St. Thomas converted the initial Christians here in the first century, when Iraq — then Mesopotamia — was part of the Persian Empire. The Chaldean language, cousin to Aramaic, sounds like Arabic and has a Hebrew-like script.

Christians never ruled the area, their fortunes varied with successive empires.

Whenever Islamic laws came into vogue, Christians suffered discrimination. They could not ride horses. No crosses could be displayed in public. Christian doctors and scribes in high office were tossed onto the streets.

In modern Iraq, about 70 per-

cent of Christians belong to the Chaldean Church. Other churches include the Assyrian Orthodox, Armenian Orthodox, Coptic and a sect known as the Mandaeans, who worship John the Baptist.

Christians say they face no official discrimination. The most prominent member of the Chaldean community, Tariq Aziz, was foreign minister during the Gulf war and is now deputy prime minister. But Aziz changed his identifiably Christian birth name of Mikhail Yubanna to one that sounds more Moslem.

Locally, Christians face obstacles. Public schools are supposed to offer Bible classes if Christians make up at least 25 percent of students. Some principals try to prevent enrollment from reaching that level, Christians say.

Despite the troubles, church elders take a this-too-shall-pass attitude.

"For thousands of years... we were persecuted, murdered, burned out, our patriarchs killed," Dely said. "The church here somehow managed to survive. It still will."

An Iraqi opposition group has accused the Baghdad regime of recently arresting more than 1,000 political suspects, including many army and air force officers and religious officials.

The Iraqi Broadcasting Corporation — linked to the opposition alliance, the Iraqi National Congress — said in a report sent from Kurdish-controlled Salahuddin in northern Iraq that those arrested had been accused of opposing Saddam Hussein and of working to overthrow his regime.

The report named one of an estimated 1,000 people arrested — Lt.-Col. Mohammed Mazloun al-Dalimi, said to be commander of al-Bakr air base near Samarra, 95 km. north of Baghdad.



Lebanese Christian militia leader Samir Geagea (left) stands with four codefendants at his trial in Beirut. (AP)

Geagea trial denounced in Lebanon



LEBANESE Christian commentators this week denounced the murder trial of former warlord Samir Geagea as a political maneuver against their weakened community.

A newspaper editor said the trial, which opened this week and is seen as one of the most important in Lebanon's history, must not be allowed to become a show trial like the 1950s Stalinist trials in Eastern Europe.

Another columnist accused the Syrian-backed government of continuing by other means the 1975-

90 civil war from which the once-dominant Christian minority emerged weakened and subordinated.

Geagea, 42-year-old ex-leader of the disbanded Lebanese Forces (LF) militia, is accused of a February church bombing that killed 11 worshippers and the 1990 murders of a Christian rival and his family.

"The overwhelming majority of citizens firmly believe that Geagea — the only Christian chief still in the country who has not toed the government line — is the victim of an implacable political maneuver," wrote Issa Goraieb, editor of the French-language newspaper *L'Orient-Le Jour*.

"We hasten to emphasize that for us — because we will never allow Beirut to become the Prague of the 1950s — every accused is innocent until proven guilty," Goraieb added.

Supporters outside the court asked why Geagea was on trial

while leaders of other former militias hold high political office.

"Is it fair that Geagea stands trial while [Nabih] Berri is speaker of parliament?" a Geagea supporter asked. Berri headed the Shi'ite Moslem Amal militia during the war.

Rafik Khoury, commentator for the Arabic-language daily *al-Anwar*, said the government had failed to achieve national reconciliation or a Moslem-Christian political balance since the war.

"The Lebanese situation seems to be a continuation of the war by other means.... While people wait for the final word from the court, they will keep asking whether the authorities have resolved a problem or created a problem," Khoury said.

Geagea is the only one of the Moslem, Christian or Druse chieftains of the civil war to go on trial.

Before his arrest in March he saw himself as the toughest oppo-

nent of the government and the continued presence of 35,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon, whom many Lebanese see as depriving their country of its independence.

Goraieb pointed out that authorities outlawed the Lebanese Forces by decree in March without waiting for a court ruling on the two cases. Geagea had turned the LF into a political party in 1991.

Goraieb asked why authorities were trying Geagea while forgetting a string of unresolved political assassinations not covered by a 1991 amnesty for civil war crimes.

They included the 1978 murder of Christian chieftain Tony Frangieh and the killing of president Bashir Gemayel in 1982, president Rene Moawad in 1990 and prime minister Rashid Karami in 1987.

Some ministers in the government "trembled" when the Frangieh case was recently opened before it was suddenly closed again, Goraieb wrote.

(Reuters)

Iran seeking to build chemical weapons plant

DOUGLAS DAVIS
LONDON

EUROPEAN exporters have been warned by German intelligence to be alert to approaches by two Iranian state enterprises which are believed to be procuring equipment for a plant that will be capable of producing chemical weapons and ballistic missiles.

The two enterprises are believed to be acting as the procurement agents for Iran's Defense Industries Organization.

According to the German Customs intelligence agency ZKA, an Indian consortium is building a pesticide plant in Iran that is thought to be linked to the production of chemical weapons.

The agency has warned that some of the equipment required for the plant is not available in India and that Iran would seek to acquire reactor vessels and graphite heat exchangers from European companies.

Attempts are also being made to buy such items as heating units, which are used in pesticide plants but also, notes the agency, in the development of ballistic missiles.

The agency has also warned companies that Iran is seeking chemicals that can be used in the produc-

tion of rocket fuel, including fine-grained aluminum powder, ammonium perchlorate and hydroxyl-terminated polybutadiene.

According to Western diplomats, Iran has become notorious for its opposition to Western controls over the export of sensitive materials and equipment.

It is also opposed to intrusive inspections of suspected nonconventional weapons plants.

The German agency also warned that Libya is attempting to buy precursor chemicals for the production of mustard and nerve gases, particularly thionylchloride, phosphorous trichloride, thiodiglycol and chlorethanol.

The ZKA said Libyan approaches were being made by mid-dlemen and suggested that Malta is a favored "third country" used to disguise the ultimate destination of the shipments.

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Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON

EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem (91000)
Telephone 315666, Telex 26121. Fax 399527. CIRCULATION - 315610. Fax 399017. ADVERTISING - 315608, 315637-40. Fax 388408. TEL. AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamagaz, P.O. Box 28396 (61283) Telephone 6390333, Fax 6390277. HAIFA: 19 Nordan, Hagar Hacarmel, Telephone 627124. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Jerusalem Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1994. Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system, or any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS

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Independence it is not

CELEBRATING the 51st anniversary of Lebanese independence, commander of the South Lebanese Army General Antoine Lahad observed that the day marks a fiction. Indeed, Lebanon is not independent. At best, it is a quasi-autonomous zone under Syrian rule. It has neither its own foreign policy nor control over its security and defense. In all matters which affect its destiny, it is subservient to Damascus.

Lahad's solution is reasonable enough: get all the foreign armies out of Lebanon and let Beirut run its own affairs. It is a solution to which Israel can have no objection. Israel's army is in southern Lebanon only because the Syrian army is in most of the rest of the country. The presence of the Syrian army not only threatens Israel strategically, it makes terrorist activities against Israel possible. Neither the Hizbullah nor Palestinian terrorists could operate from there had the Lebanese themselves been in control.

Outgoing OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai confirmed this yesterday when he asserted that the latest terrorist attacks, launched by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, were also sanctioned by Syria. The Hizbullah supplies the DFPLP gunmen with intelligence and equipment, and helps them penetrate the security zone. This, like everything else the Hizbullah does, is directed from Damascus. Whenever there are developments in the negotiations, they are reflected in increased activity on the military front, he said.

Against this background, declarations by President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher about the sincerity of Hafez Assad's desire for peace seem hollow. Increasing the in-

tensity of Hizbullah attacks on Israeli positions is a strange way to build confidence in Syria's intentions. Such attacks are more likely to confirm Republican Senator Jesse Helms's charges: that Syria does not want peace, but an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan and Lebanon, and Syrian access to American funds.

Even more disturbing are recent pronouncements by US ambassador-designate to Israel Martin Indyk, who told a Lebanese newspaper that it was Iran, not Syria, which controlled the Hizbullah. True, Iran maintains and equips the Hizbullah, and provides it with recruits; but the organization's military operations are totally dependent on Syrian collaboration.

Despite Indyk's assertions, the US administration is aware of this. The agreement it brokered after "Operation Accountability," affecting Hizbullah operations, was made with Syria, not Iran. And Israel scrupulously adheres to the agreement despite Hizbullah violations and provocations only because it wishes to avoid derailing the negotiations with Syria. If the IDF has avoided attacking villages harboring and helping Hizbullah gunmen, it is not because Israel is worried about Iran's reaction.

But this strained effort to avoid annoying the Syrians has put Israel's forces in southern Lebanon at an untenable disadvantage. Instead of taking the initiative by attacking Hizbullah bases and keeping the growing guerrilla army off-balance, Israel is disregarding its traditional military doctrine and assuming a purely defensive stance. The hope is that this policy of constraint will bring peace. The reality is that it will cause more casualties.

Papering the cracks

NATO had no option but to carry out its long-threatened strike on Croatian Serb airbases if it was to maintain any shred of credibility. But, in a typical irony of the war in Bosnia, it may actually be doing exactly what the Bosnian Serb leadership wants.

At most, the air strikes' main purpose may be to prove that the former mighty Atlantic alliance is still in business, and that it can operate under the lumbering constraints imposed upon it by the United Nations. The military action is likely to have little impact on the course of the war - unless it achieves the negative outcome of goading the Belgrade Serb leadership back into the conflict.

NATO's supposed role in enforcing UN directives to protect designated safe areas has been absurdly hampered by concern not to endanger the troops of UN nations on the ground in the conflict. The concern was not a military one but a political one - the fear is not of hitting the troops with friendly fire but of goading the Serbs into taking direct action against them. The absurdity is that in a conventional war, the prospect that NATO air strikes might irritate an enemy into acting against NATO troops would never be entertained as a tactical consideration, because battle-planning would be carried out as a coherent whole.

This absurdity has long irritated the American side in debates over what to do about the war in Bosnia. NATO can take no military action without United Nations saying so. But the UN is concerned not to be seen as escalating the war or provoking reprisals against its peacekeepers. This

has resulted in months of diminishing UN credibility which has dragged that of NATO down with it. The world body has dithered over enforcing its own tough Security Council declarations against the Serbs and over giving NATO a green light to enforce the military alliance's decisions on policing the no-fly zones.

Yet the 39-plane raid on Serb-controlled Ud-bina air base in Croatia was NATO's biggest air operation since it was founded in 1949. If, in fact, the biggest air strike in Europe since World War II. At the same time, the raid came only 10 days after NATO's main member, the United States, broke away from collective agreement by unilaterally pulling out of the arms embargo against the Bosnian Muslim side in the war. Such a split in NATO would have been unthinkable in Cold War days. The operation may restore some semblance of cohesion, but it is likely to be short-lived. "NATO has sort of become subordinated to the whims of the United Nations," said the influential Sen. Bob Dole, who will become US Senate majority leader in January.

The Bosnian Serbs, abandoned by Belgrade and facing a strengthening Muslim army, almost certainly had their allies in the Croatian Serb enclave launch the air raids with the assumption that it would provoke NATO. For them the ideal solution to their problems in Bosnia would be a renewed conflict in Croatia which Belgrade could not ignore, reuniting the whole Serbian military machine in all three countries. This is a trap NATO and the UN must not unwittingly spring.



If everything else fails...

This is the Zionist era

WITH the prospect of Israel's integration in the Middle East, there has been much talk of a "post-Zionist" era.

It is here already, says Abraham Rabinovich (*The Jerusalem Post*, October 26). We no longer depend on charitable aid from abroad, and we can no longer request help for a weak, endangered and impoverished country. Besides, we're getting overcrowded, and don't need any more immigrants - so let's pick and choose whom we let in.

A devoted Diaspora Zionist told me a year or so after the Proclamation of Independence: "Well, you have your state - now it's up to you!" For him, the post-Zionist era had already begun.

It didn't work out like that. Infant Israel needed massive aid, and Jews abroad were eager to cooperate in the Zionist work of aliyah and settlement. There was a redistribution of responsibilities between the government and the Zionist Movement, but the old institutions didn't just lie down and die.

Ben-Gurion challenged these arrangements. In practice, he declared, there was no difference between a so-called Zionist in the Diaspora who had no intention of making aliyah and a mere "friend of Israel." The World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency, he declared, should be replaced by a "World Jewish Organization" comprising all Jews prepared to support the Jewish state.

A similar reform was recently suggested by Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, who proposed setting up an organization called Beit Yisrael (House of Israel),

MISHA LOUVISH

based on individual membership and democratic elections, to replace the existing institutions.

Yosef Goell (*The Post*, October 14), agrees that we should always be ready to take in any community in danger, but should amend the Law of Return to enable Israel to select immigrants who can make a useful contribution. Brian Freeman (*November 13*) eloquently defends aliyah as a fundamental part of Israel's essential nature.

Post-Zionism? No. There's still vital work to be done

Any kind of selection process would indeed raise some very difficult practical problems. Someone would have to do the selecting; and where are the enlightened and compassionate bureaucrats who could be entrusted with this invidious job?

What would we do if some of those who were turned down arrived as tourists and refused to leave? Would we start deporting unwanted Jews? There would be endless complications and dilemmas.

TALK OF a "Post-Zionist" era is little more than a semantic exercise. There is still important Zionist work to do.

The strengthening of the bonds between Diaspora - especially US - Jewry and Israel is vitally important. A small country with a total population of five and a half mil-

lion, including a million Arabs, would be crazy to loosen its links with this great hinterland.

Nor should we give up hope of more aliyah from the West. Until now, there has only been a trickle. But the improvement in Israel's situation, reducing the need for Diaspora support, might increase this country's attraction as the place where Jews can build their lives. There has been a recent increase in the number of Israeli returnees from the US.

In the last few years, Israel has taken in half a million Jews from the former Soviet Union. If one-fifth of that number came from the US, bringing their capital and skills, it would have an enormous impact on our life here.

Despite the "post-Zionists," there is every reason to expect that Israel will become a greater source of inspiration for Diaspora Jewry.

In the early years of Zionism, the Herzlian view of the Jewish state as a refuge for the persecuted and an antidote to antisemitism vied with Ahad Ha'am's theory of the state as a spiritual center.

Both these visions are being realized in our time. Israel's achievements in scholarship, literature and the arts can add a significant dimension to the life of every Jew.

There is room for greater readiness on Israel's part to strengthen Jewish life in the Diaspora, not only as a long-term expedient to promote aliyah, and certainly not as an alternative to Zionism in the "post-Zionist" era, but as part of the realization of the fundamental aims of Zionism.

The writer is a veteran member of the Zionist and Labor movements.

Debacle of 1994

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

IN July 1945, Britain held its first election since the start of World War II. Up for re-election was Winston Churchill, fresh from saving Britain (and much else). A grateful nation threw the bum out.

Meanwhile across the Atlantic, Americans threw out their bums, the party that had gotten them triumphantly through the Great Depression and World War II, in the 1946 Republican landslide. And that was a reprise of the massive defeat they had handed Democrats in 1920, a thank-you-and-goodbye for victory in World War I.

Which brings us to the great Democratic debacle of 1994. Of the myriad reasons advanced to explain the disaster, the historical context has been largely overlooked: This is a postwar era. It does not feel as postwar as 1920 or 1946, but postwar it is, and in this century, postwar elections have not been kind to the ruling party.

The Cold War was a World War, not as bloody as the first two, but just as bitter, and far more protracted and corrosive.

Postwar elections haven't been kind to the victors - and this is a postwar era

The postwar environment is usually marked by anxiety. A state of melancholic agitation fills the gap between our expectations of what the world would be like when the great struggle was won and the mundane imperfections of the postwar world as it turned out to be.

George Bush was the first beneficiary of that feeling, thrown out of office in 1992 for reasons partly of recession, partly of inertia, but partly of irrelevance. A man of war - his career spanned World War, Cold War and Gulf War - seemed ill-fitted for the postwar times ahead.

THIS YEAR, it was the turn of the Democratic Party, custodian of Congress for 40 years. Through the Cold War, it held the country together with a social agenda for domestic tranquility that consisted of buying off the poor and discontented with a generous welfare state.

The apotheosis of this social-peace-through-social-welfare approach was the 1994 crime bill with its billion of "prevention" dollars to induce would-be criminals not to be. The theory being that they cannot be expected to "say no to crime" if the federal government does not first give them dance classes and such "to say yes to." That approach has now run its course, as has the party that pioneered it.

The Republicans this year ran on a platform radically rejecting Democratic social theory and promising radical reform of their own. The voters responded by giving them a blank check. In a postwar world, one can take such chances. The conventional wisdom is that voters turned to the Republicans because of a sense of insecurity. On the contrary. It is a profound, if subliminal, sense of national and international security that allows voters the kind of postwar gyrations we saw in '92 and now '94. In times of emergency, it is a lot harder to take a leap in the dark.

This phenomenon is not confined to America. The leap-in-the-dark impulse is obvious worldwide. Italy experienced a political revolution that vaporized the Christian Democratic Party. It had ruled since World War II. In Japan, the Liberal Democrats lost power for the first since 1955.

The French Socialists were decimated in parliamentary elections. And Canada saw the greatest electoral catastrophe of them all. The ruling Tories went into last year's election with 154 seats. They came out with two. That should be consolation to Tony Coelho and today's grieving Democrats.

When the war is over, people turn inward. Traditionally, that is understood to mean indulging isolationist sentiment and reducing international commitments. But it also means turning a more critical eye on the reigning political establishment.

Voters are less willing to submit to leaders, often grown arrogant and corrupt, who kept them going through dangerous times. They are quite prepared to take chances, whether on Italy's unknown Berlusconi, on Japan's prime minister-of-the-month, or on Newt Gingrich, former parliamentary guerrilla, now co-president of the United States.

(Washington Post Writers Group)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SYRIAN JEWS

Sir, - Reports and commentary in *The Jerusalem Post* and other Israeli and American publications have rightly heralded the exodus and aliyah of Syrian Jewry. It is, indeed, truly a time for rejoicing.

However, except for one brief mention of Canada by former Syrian Chief Rabbi Ibrahim Hanna on his arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport, all public statements and articles have given sole credit to the Jewish Agency, the American Joint Distribution Committee and other US organizations, as well as the US government, for making this modern miracle happen.

It should be known that for some 23 years - long before there were any other groups exclusively, or even primarily, devoted to the support and

rescue of the Jews of Syria - Canada was the source of ongoing quiet contact with that community, the supply of needed religious articles and funding for those in need. So, too, over all these years, necessary payments to ensure the exit of many hundreds of Jews came from here.

The government of Canada also played a major role in its forthright and direct representations to the Syrian government respecting the condition of Syria's Jews and their right to leave.

JUDY FELD CARR,
Chairman,
National Task Force
for Syrian Jews
Canadian Jewish Congress
Toronto.

BLATANT CHAUVINISM

Sir, - We were deeply disturbed by the frivolity of whoever wrote the headline to a story on November 8, about a woman who had been savagely attacked by her husband - an attack which earned him a 12-year sentence. Those who saw this woman on *Erev Hadash* saw a terrified woman, who is afraid her husband will kill her when he is released.

To headline this article "Man Gets 12 Years for Feminist Assault" - obviously playing on the word "carnivorous" - is the height of insensitivity.

JUDY AND SHMUEL HIMELSTEIN
Jerusalem.

There was no intention to be frivolous or chauvinist; it was just an attempt to get the gist of the story into a headline. - Ed. J.P.

GOLF

Sir, - Further to Paul Katz's letter of November 16 expressing satisfaction with sports coverage of *The Jerusalem Post*, I wish to point out that there is one sport that is sadly neglected, even almost ignored. Golf is hardly ever mentioned.

During the last few months, there have been, almost weekly, tournaments all over Europe, America and the Far East. Competitions came from across the world, top players competing for enormous sums of money, watched by vast crowds as well as TV viewers. But there has hardly been even a three- or four-line report of the winners and their score.

Perhaps there are no golfers among the staff of *The Jerusalem Post*!

KAY ROBINS
Givatayim.

VITRIOLIC BILE

Sir, - I feel that public discussion about the alleged shortcomings of the soldiers of the Givati Brigade, before the incident has been properly investigated, is rather tasteless and counterproductive (your editorial of November 1). I was not surprised by your tendency to exploit this unfortunate event in order to once again blame the government and Rabin in particular. However, your basing your attack on so tendentious a source as MK Rafael Eitan, whose major grudge is that Rabin, and not he himself, is the minister of defense, makes the thrust of your article rather puerile.

I have been a reader of *The Jerusalem Post* and previously *The Palestine Post* for over 50 years and have observed with growing distaste your uncritical infatuation with right-wing

policies and your unrestrained attacks on the peace policies of the present government. Such sentences as "the army has lost its fighting discipline," "disgraceful performance," "shameful performance" and "israelis turning tail" make me wonder who gets more of a kick out of your polemics, the Kach characters in Hebron or the Hizbullah in Lebanon.

In fact your editorials together with the tasteless vulgarities of your cartoonist Oleg makes reading *The Jerusalem Post* a rather unpleasant daily experience. But I am an incorrigible optimist and am sure the days will return when *The Jerusalem Post* will again be printed in printers' ink and not, as at present, in vitriolic bile.

ITZHAK D. UNNA
Haifa.

Doctors go private to heal a public sore

MICHELLE FAUL
LAGOS

WHEN it became too painful to watch youngsters dying in hospitals for lack of medicine and equipment, four female doctors defied the system and opened Nigeria's first private hospital for children.

Their achievement is one of the few bright spots in a nation suffering its greatest economic and political crisis in decades. A year after a general ousted another military dictator, political and ethnic clashes and pro-democracy strikes that wrecked the already weak economy have left Nigerians "calloused and with a very low value for human life," said Dr. Efunbo Dosekun, one of the founders of Lifeline Children's Hospital.

"Health and hope definitely are not priorities in this environment," Dosekun said. "Trying to get the hospital going showed us how totally insensitive and brutal the whole system has become."

For 1½ years, the four pediatricians struggled to get loans from bankers, who demanded up to 60-percent interest. The women finally used their own money and opened the hospital last January in a neighborhood called Surulere, which means "patience pays."

A stream of patients flowed through the 20-bed hospital and consulting rooms during a recent evening.

"This is expensive for us, but taking kids to the government hospitals is like giving them the death sentence," said one mother, a teacher who feared reprisals if identified by name.

NIGERIA'S once-enviable health-care system, which was built up during the oil boom of the 1970s, has collapsed after years of government corruption that mis-spent money intended to support state hospitals.

Lagos University Teaching Hospital was once a showcase of modern health care, but Dosekun said nowadays the doctors there watch helplessly as patients die because there are no basic drugs or life-saving equipment.

While Dosekun was speaking, a nurse came in to say a mother had no money for medicine. "Heavens, the child needs it. Give it to her and tell her to bring the money next week," Dosekun said with a sigh.

The hospital has critics, including Dr. Beko Ransome-Kuti, a democracy activist who gave up his medical practice to work full time against the military government of Gen. Sani Abacha.

"How do they expect to help when only the middle class can afford their fees? Soon even they won't be able to pay and the hospital will be bankrupt," Ransome-Kuti said.

Abacha seized power on November 17, 1993, ousting a military regime that touched off political chaos five months earlier by canceling a presidential election. Elections took place, but Abacha did not honor the results, and pro-democracy forces rioted and began long strikes that worsened the economy's slump.

A bed at Lifeline costs 400 naira a night. That is just \$4 on world currency markets, but it is one-third of a month's salary for a government messenger. That is, if the messenger gets his salary, and most government employees are not being paid because of the devastated economy.

Dosekun said all Nigerians need medical care, whatever their social status.

"The middle class is slowly being wiped out," she said. "You'd be shocked by the number of malnourished children we see here. The crisis is hitting everyone."

The hospital's founders eventually hope to open another hospital in a wealthy neighborhood and charge fees that would pay for a third hospital in a slum.

(Associated Press)



We're in the army now - together

BRADLEY GRAHAM
FORT LEONARD WOOD, Missouri

WHEN they entered basic training at this Missouri base eight weeks ago, Pvt. James Lane and Pvt. Teri Rutter were unsettled to learn they'd be doing their sweating, grunting and gritting in mixed company.

Lane, 22, worried that the women would be a drag on things, or worse, might even outperform him, or perhaps inhibit the development of male camaraderie.

Rutter, 18, feared that the men would laugh at her mistakes, set too challenging a pace and generally make life miserable for her and the other women.

Sitting in their coed barracks one day last week, cleaning gear after a three-day field exercise, Lane and Rutter said their initial misgivings gave way as male and female trainees began helping each other.

In fact, officers here said, preliminary results of the recent shift to what the Army calls gender-integrated basic training show little change in the performance of men but giant strides in the morale and performance of women, who feel more motivated when challenged to keep up with the opposite sex.

The Army leadership is counting on this to be the general rule.

Yesterday, when the 178 trainees of Alpha Company, 6th Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment graduated here, they became the first group to make it through coed basic training since the service decided this summer to do away with all-male and all-female training for the numerous non-combat jobs now open to both sexes.

"As we did more things, we just pulled together," Lane said. "Now, when we get out there, all we see is [Army] green," he added, tugging at his uniform.

Rutter said the women, often challenged to do better by the men, found ways to motivate them in turn.

"Some of the guys weren't good at remembering things, so we'd make up rhymes to help them," she said. "In the field, I'd go behind a guy who was having trouble keeping up and say, 'Hey, you won't let a girl beat you, will you?' and that would motivate him." Women in other sex-mixed training companies also spoke enthusiastically of the value of competing with men.

"The last time I went on a march, I had a guy in front and a guy in back, pushing me on," said Pvt. Tonya Sanders, 18, taking a

break from physical training with Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion. "That helped a lot. If I had been marching with all females, I wouldn't have pushed myself as hard."

OFFICERS SAID they try as much as possible to treat both sexes identically. Male and female recruits train on the same courses, shoot the same rifles, carry the same weighty gear and wear the same boots.

But the physical performance requirements for men and women do differ, a reflection that on average men have larger hearts and lungs, more muscle mass and longer strides than women. The men, for instance, must be able to do 32 push-ups and 42 sit-ups and run 3.2 km. in about 17 minutes to receive an average score; the corresponding standards for women are 13 push-ups, 40 sit-ups and 20 minutes.

"The aim is to obtain the same amount of expenditure of energy by men and women," said Col. Franklin "Buster" Hagenbeck, commander of the training brigade here. "But that's a hard point to make with some of the male trainees. They really don't want to hear this explanation when they are sweating and the drill sergeant is chewing their ears off and they feel like throwing up and the women around them are doing fewer repetitions."

If the men naturally do better on the exercise field, the women score higher in such classroom courses as first aid and radio operations. They also do a better job keeping their bunks in order.

More than a year of study preceded the decision to integrate basic training, but the Army has not worked out all the kinks yet. Women still complain of too few toilets and showerheads in the barracks. Female trainees also have been suffering higher rates of injury and sick call - a result, commanders here suspect, of the women pushing themselves too hard to keep up with the men.

THIS ISN'T the first time the Army has tried training the sexes together after induction. Coed basic training was discontinued more than a decade ago

amid reports that male performance was declining, and Army officials who are skeptical about reviving the approach have pointed to this as evidence that it is destined not to work.

Critics also worry that mixing women with men in basic training will open the door to allowing women in combat jobs.

Advocates of integration of the sexes, however, say times have changed, and because women now serve with men in all of the Army's noncombat positions, it makes little sense to train them separately during their first eight weeks in the service.

"One of our foremost principles is, train as you're going to fight and support," said Maj. Gen. Richard Chilcoat, commandant of the Army War College, who helped argue the case before Gen. Gordon Sullivan, the Army's chief of staff. "We hadn't been doing that in basic training."

Although accustomed for years to coeducation in advanced training programs, the Army took months reviewing the prospect of coed basic training. In pilot programs here and at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, the service experimented with various mixes, concluding that the optimal was about a 75/25, male/female ratio.

"The males in the 75/25 combination felt much better about their training, they felt they were still in control," said Jackie Mottern of the Army Research Institute.

"When we went to a 50/50 mix, there was more role confusion."

The test programs also showed that sex-mixed training did little to affect the physical conditioning, marksmanship and individual proficiency scores of men, but did cause a striking rise in the morale and performance of women.

"Women who had trained in all-female companies had low morale," Mottern said. "They felt they weren't being pushed as hard, weren't being asked to do as much."

IN SETTING up the new program, a particular challenge was winning the support of the drill sergeants, who set the tone for basic training.

"There were a lot of negative attitudes among the training cad-

re," Chilcoat said. "Their overriding concern was, if you train men and women together, you'd have to pull the men down to the women's level. Some of the old graybeards thought this was a win-lose situation, where the women would win but the men lose."

Hagenbeck said he has been quite blunt with his drill sergeants about accepting the new order.

"I took the Attila the Hun approach with them," said Hagenbeck, who formerly taught coed physical education at West Point. "I told them gender integration was our mission, and any outward manifestation of noncompliance would not be tolerated."

As encouraging as the initial results appear, the drill sergeants still are struggling to cope.

Sgt. Steven Buie said the higher incidence of injuries among female trainees has handicapped training to a degree. The officers also said they have had to adjust their training approaches.

"This sounds like a macho comment, but you find out the women are more emotional," said Lt. Col. Ron Perry, the 3rd Battalion commander. "For instance, when they stand on the rifle range and are told they've failed, many of the women will break down, while the guys will kick a stone and curse. So what the drill sergeant has to do is tone things down a bit and use more positive motivational techniques with the women."

At other times, the women will be more assertive and inquisitive than the men.

"The women don't have the same fear of the drill sergeant," Perry said. "They come here less intimidated, more aggressive."

As for potential hanky-panky among the trainees, senior officers say trainees are told that sexual relations among them will not be tolerated.

Commanders here acknowledge that about one-third of the male trainees who arrive resenting the notion of integrated training leave with their views unchanged. That lowers the sense of group cohesion, but the commanders said the training units here always have scored lower on cohesion surveys than training units for male-only infantry and armor jobs.

"Our attitude is, we're not going to try in eight weeks to change feelings that developed in a trainee over 18 years," Perry said. (The Washington Post)

The driver's seat still belongs only to Saudi men

NORA BOUSTANY
RIYADH

THREE years after the Gulf war prompted the first stirrings of a movement by Saudi women for greater freedoms, the public campaign has long since been suffocated by new official restrictions, and a lower-profile struggle has ensued for advancement in the business and professional worlds.

The brief spark from a drive-in protest by 47 women in downtown Riyadh on November 6, 1990, has been extinguished.

Saudi women are forbidden to drive, and many of those involved in the protest lost their jobs temporarily and were reprimanded for causing embarrassment to the kingdom at a time of more pressing national issues. The setback left even the most outspoken women fearful of voicing their frustrations or views.

As Saudi women groom themselves for careers in business and the professions - outnumbering men in some of the sciences and medical fields and mastering the use of computers - they are still excluded from public debate.

Women run investment firms, manage shops and work in hospitals.

Except for the hospitals, however, all work sites in Saudi Arabia are segregated. The secret hope many harbor is that changing needs will reshape the role and participation of women. "But whatever we do, we are in a pioneering role," said Shuaa Rashed, a radio broadcaster.

One prominent businesswoman running her father's investment firm said she ignores the rules.

"I deal with men. Am I legal? No, but I do it. Everybody knows and nobody is stopping me," she said with a shrug as she served Thai carry-out food in her kitchen while fielding calls from male employees seeking instructions. "The worst thing you can do in the Arab world is ask for permission. It will always be no."

Abdullah Dabbagh, secretary-general of the Saudi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said that in his extended family, "I have six male doctors and 10 female doctors, which gives you an indication that women are out there getting ready."

WOMEN WHO want to survive work within a system of social segregation to maintain an aura of respect and untouchability. At the Institute of Public Administration, where hundreds of young women train for management jobs, accounting, publishing and computer work, the only link to the male world is by telephone or fax. When terminals break down, male technicians come in at night.

"Before, we had to beg girls to get trained. We had five or six women in each course. Now we have a waiting list of 600 to 700 for each of the 160 programs," Ilham Dakheel, a consultant in workforce and resource development, said of the all-female institute.

"There is a difference between veiling and seclusion - they are not synonymous."

It is the custom here for women, in the presence of men other than their father, spouse or brother, to wear the ankle-length *abaya*, cover their heads and pull a black veil over their faces. But the way they dress in public is the least of their worries.

"Before driving and taking off the *abaya*, we need more important things - you need your identity as a woman. Here we are still part of the men," said a psychologist.

The bravado of the high-profile driving protest by 47 middle-aged professional women shook a kingdom where everything is solved quietly and behind the scenes, but the driving issue remains unresolved. When confronted with an emergency and a relative has to be driven to hospital, what should a woman do?

"These are extremely limited incidents. She will not drive because she won't know how and she does not have a license," Prince Nayef, the interior minister, answered. "A woman is compelled to seek the assistance of a man."

One prominent prince said that what has been accomplished so far would not be overlooked. "Before the establishment of the kingdom, women were considered as cattle. Ask women in their 70s and 80s what it was like when they were five or six years old."

May Rimaya, an obstetrician, said the first generation of female doctors in Saudi Arabia had to go into research. Now more patients are asking to be treated by female physicians.

But in the hearts of those who are trailblazing on the narrow path allowed them in Saudi Arabia, there is a strong desire for recognition.

A married Saudi woman who moved from being director of a women's bank to successfully running an antique dealership, a beauty salon and other stores conceded that "we are doing everything, but there is one thing missing. I want to be legitimate. I should feel proud of what I am accomplishing. I feel bad that people abroad think of us Saudi women as passive."

It is only by themselves, away from the men, that Saudi women are free to have fun - such as at Queen Hall, a commercial establishment where mothers-in-law and their friends gather with brides-to-be at women-only events to prepare for a wedding.

Young women shed their grim *abayas* to reveal bare shoulders, low-cut taffeta dresses in candy colors and slinky gowns with revealing slits. They shimmy their shoulders and shake their hips to swaying Arab melodies. Afternoons of locked-up boredom are tossed away for the night.

"The men miss all the fun," said one princess teasingly at an all-girls function. "They eat and go home. We dance all night."

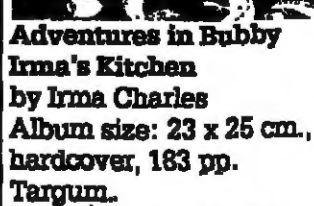
(The Washington Post)

Good ol' Fashion Jewish Cookin'

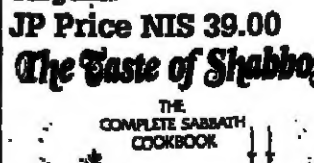
Here's all your favorite traditional Jewish dishes from the old country. And almost as good and dependable as the recipes themselves is the love, knowledge, wit and wisdom the authors share, while you're preparing a bounty of time-tested kosher favorites for your loved ones.



Shmulk's Jewish Kitchen
by Shmulk Cohen
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hardcover, 169 pp.
Illustrated in color and
b/w. Modan.
JP Price NIS 52.00



Adventures in Bubby Irma's Kitchen
by Irma Charles
Album size: 23 x 25 cm.,
hardcover, 183 pp.
Targum.
JP Price NIS 39.00

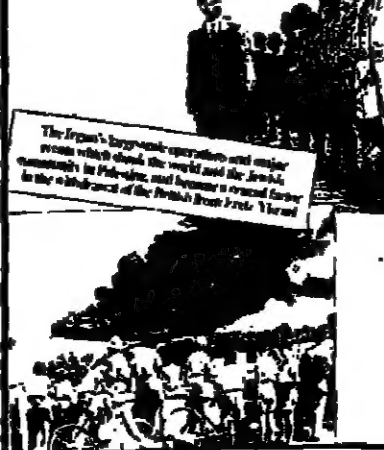


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BUSINESS & FINANCE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1994

OPEC agrees on '95 output, picks new head

DENPASAR, Indonesia (Reuters) — Cash-strapped OPEC producers set aside their deep political divisions yesterday long enough to clinch a deal on 1995 oil production and to resolve the sensitive issue of picking a new secretary-general.

Oil ministers of the 12 members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries agreed to maintain their combined output unchanged for the next year at 24.52 million barrels per day and agreed on a compromise candidate, Nigeria's Riwana Lukman, for the group's top executive post.

Both decisions were unanimous and oil markets rewarded the cartel for its rare display of unity by hiking oil prices, which have now risen by 30 cents a barrel since last Friday.

Prices for OPEC oil are still little better in real terms than before the 1973 Arab oil embargo and members are desperate to boost revenues to refill their depleted coffers.

The ministers hope the output freeze, combined with surging world demand as recession-hit economies recover, will finally be able to ratchet oil prices higher where past OPEC attempts have failed.

Libyan Oil Minister Abdalla Salem El-Badri earlier told OPEC's year-end meeting in Bali that he expected world oil demand to rise by 700,000 barrels per day (bpd) this year to about 66m. bpd and by another 1m. bpd in 1995.

"This (output agreement) is expected to raise oil prices gradually," said Ida Bagus Sudjana, oil minister for Indonesia, OPEC's only Asian member.

When asked if the deal could push oil prices to \$18 or \$19 per barrel, Sudjana said, "I hope so."

"This is a different OPEC than the 1970s," said Peter Gignoux, head of the London energy desk at Smith Barney. "It is a pragmatic deal, not a political one."

Encouraged by strong growth forecasts for the next few years, jubilant OPEC ministers even began dusting off references to OPEC's \$21 oil target price. The last time OPEC oil fetched \$21 a barrel was in late 1990 after Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Iran, OPEC's second largest producer, said there was no need for OPEC to open its oil taps wider until prices hit \$21. North Sea Brent crude oil is now around \$16.93.

"As long as we don't reach that price (\$21) there is no necessity to raise the (production) ceiling," he said.

OPEC has kept its production ceiling unchanged since September 1993 but oil prices have remained weak due to higher non-OPEC production, OPEC quota cheating and fears of resumed Iraqi oil production.

Slumping markets have chopped OPEC oil earnings by more than half since 1980, when the group held the world to ransom with high oil prices.

Now, OPEC is trying a more hands-off approach and seems content to let oil prices drift higher along with demand.

"OPEC is becoming wiser and more realistic," a delegate from one MidEast Gulf OPEC country said.

"It is starting to look at a longer strategy."

OPEC's new approach to prices, however, is fraught with dangers. By freezing output for an entire year, oil traders say it is giving up its role as the world's oil price balancer.

"OPEC will not step in if oil prices fall over the next 12 months unless it is an emergency or Iraq comes back," one Singapore oil trader said.

"That means oil prices will be at the mercy of other, even less predictable factors like accidents or strikes or the weather. We could see oil prices get even more unstable."

Just as challenging for OPEC was resolving the politically touchy issue of picking a new secretary-general.

Iran and Venezuela blocked each other at the last OPEC meeting but both made unusual concessions here, paving the way for Nigeria's Lukman, past oil minister and OPEC president.

Traders said that experience will come in handy when United Nations sanctions are finally lifted and Iraqi oil gushes back into world markets.

Bid deadline for Mizrahi postponed

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE deadline for the two groups submitting final bids for the purchase of United Mizrahi Bank was postponed for the second time in a week yesterday following their disagreement on the final stage of the sale process.

The two groups, Ofer-Wertheim and Akirav-Steinmetz, were expected to make their bids by 7:00 p.m. last night.

After announcing the postponement, MI Holdings, the government-owned company in charge of the sale process, proposed to set a minimum tender price of \$110m. for the purchase of 26 percent of Mizrahi's shares with an option to buy an additional 26%.

The proposal is part of an attempt to solve the differences between the two bidding groups.

The Akirav-Steinmetz group may have difficulty in accepting the proposal since two of its leading investors are overseas.

According to the tender's original rules, the groups must submit sealed bids and the consortium offering the highest bid will enter negotiations with MI Holdings.

Over the last two months, however, the two groups have negotiated with MI Holdings as to the procedure of the tender's final stage.

Sources close to the sale said the Akirav-Steinmetz group had asked MI Holdings to negotiate initially with the highest bidder and should the negotiations fail, to negotiate with the second group.

The Ofer-Wertheim consortium, however, had insisted that once MI Holdings reveals the bids, it should give the option to the lower bidder to raise its bid before starting negotiations with the higher bidder.

In the meantime, MI Holdings proposal to set a minimum tender price is based on a bank valuation of \$440m. Mizrahi's equity capital reached \$427m., according to its financial statements published on Monday. The bank is valued at \$450-\$500m. according to appraisals conducted on behalf of MI Holdings several months ago.

Sources close to the sale predicted the final stage is likely to drag on for several more days. Gil Leidner, managing director of MI Holdings, could not be reached for comment.

MI Holdings initial deadline to submit bids was Monday, however, it was delayed after the Ofer-Wertheim consortium requested a one-day extension so it could examine the bank's financial statements. Sources close to the bidders said both groups were disappointed with Mizrahi's third-quarter results.

The Akirav-Steinmetz group is made up of businessman Alfred Akirav, the investment company Elrov, the Steinmetz family and Belgium diamond merchants Leon Schechter and David Nindar. The Ofer-Wertheim consortium consists of the Ofer Brothers and Uzi Wertheim, chairman of Coca Cola.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Tel Aviv District Court Judge Yeshaya Levitt decided to postpone his ruling regarding the claim made by Carmel Carpets liquidators that ex-Carmel owner MK Avraham Shapira gave his wife, Tova, the Textile House's office floor as a gift.

The liquidators claim Shapira gave presents to himself and members of his family since 1984 at the company's expense. In response, Shapira's power of attorney asked the court to cancel the liquidators' request since Carmel's creditors were not hindered by the transfer of the office floor from the company to Tova Shapira.

Shohat approves TASE changes: Finance Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday approved changes to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange regulations imposing stricter qualifications on member firms. The changes, which were proposed by Securities Authority Chairman Arye Minkovitch, include requiring a non-banking company to have at least one senior manager with at least five years of experience in the capital market.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday forwarded to the cabinet legislative committee an amendment to the Bank of Israel post-employment restriction law. The amendment imposes the same post-employment restrictions on central bank employees as those applying to government employees. It also limits relations between former supervisors and their subordinates, who are still working for the bank. A Bank of Israel employee will not be allowed to work for a commercial bank during the cooling off period if he has information pertaining to another bank which if publicized, would harm the other bank.

Haifa Chemicals is negotiating the establishment of a joint venture either in Jordan or one of the Gulf states, owner Arye Genger said yesterday. He described the partnership as a cooperative manufacturing venture.

Genger arrived here for next week's opening of the company's new Rotem branch plant near Dimona.

Shutdown ordered at ICL plants: The umbrella organization representing Israel Chemicals' workers yesterday ordered a two-day shutdown of all of the concern's production facilities to begin this morning. The move represents a warning against possible damage to workers' rights and future working agreements following the company's eventual privatization. Israel Chemicals' directors said the strike is illegal, since the umbrella organization is not a legally recognized body. The directors added they would not give in to the demands, since they are not justified.

Amir Rozenblit

Housing completions drop 7.2%

JOSE ROSENFELD

HOUSING completions fell 7.2 percent in the third quarter to 8,360, from 9,010 in the second quarter, paralleling the drop in starts from two years ago, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

Public sector completions dropped 5.2% to 2,380 units, after jumping 7.7% in the second quarter. Private sector completions fell 8% to 5,980 units, after rising a sharp 15% in the second quarter.

Housing starts, by contrast, rose 6.8% in the third quarter to 9,740 units. The private sector began construction of 8,140 units, an 11.5% rise from the previous quarter, while the public sector initiated 12.1% fewer units than in the previous quarter.

In the first nine months of the year, housing starts rose 7% over the same period in 1993 to 27,800 units. Most of the increase was attributable to the public sector, which showed a 38% rise.

At the end of September, the number of apartments under construction totaled 64,100, a 2.2% increase over last year.

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'Meat imports to cause NIS 200m. farmer loss'

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

CATTLE farmers will suffer an immediate loss of NIS 200 million as a result of Monday's decision by the Ministry of Industry and Trade to approve meat imports by the private sector as of January 1, 1995. Ziv Matalon, deputy managing director of the Cattle Board said at an emergency board meeting yesterday.

About 150 cattle breeders from the South attended the meeting, which was held at Marbek Industries, a manufacturer of fresh and frozen sausage and meat products.

Matalon said the decision to allow meat imports will lead to a NIS 200m. fall in the value of the farmers' meat stock. He criticized

the government for not preparing a mechanism to protect domestic production of fresh meat.

The cattle breeders claimed the decision is yet another measure that will lead to the local agriculture sector's destruction. They urged the government to subject meat imports to high customs to protect local production.

The breeders emphasized that meat produced in Europe is subsidized.

"We will be able to compete against US and European meat prices only if we receive government subsidies. We plan to take all possible

measures to prevent the sector's destruction," Matalon said.

Food Authority Director Yoram Levy said he did not understand the breeders' complaints, since "there is no connection between the meat products market and the fresh meat market."

He explained that meat products are not produced from fresh meat but from frozen meat, and would therefore have no impact on the fresh meat market. He added that fresh meat production is limited and the volume of frozen meat imports already is twice as large as local meat production.

Telad petitions against new 056 rules

EVELYN GORDON

THE Telad company petitioned the High Court of Justice yesterday against new regulations that 056 services will be blocked to all telephone subscribers unless they submit a written request to be connected.

The regulations were enacted in response to numerous complaints about the pornographic services which constitute the main activity of 056 companies. The Communications Ministry decided to set up a new area code, 057, for genuine informational services, and to close 056 to anyone who does not ask to be connected.

The petition, filed by attorney Jacob Amster on behalf of Telad, one of the 056 companies, charges that this is simply thinly-veiled

censorship. All the committees which investigated the issue found there was nothing illegal in supplying pornographic services, he said; therefore, they should have the same rights as other pay services.

The government's claim that it was closing off 056 because of numerous complaints about "stolen phone calls or damage to sensitive youth is a cover-up for its desire to stop these services, Amster said.

Furthermore, the petition argued, the decision to close off 056 discriminates against local companies with respect to foreign competitors. A written request to the phone company is not required to

obtain pornography from foreign suppliers; they can be reached just by dialing the international country code.

"The [government] killed the Israeli sardines, because they could be reached," said Amster. "But the foreigners, who can't be reached, were left alone."

The petition also claims the process by which the regulations were enacted was faulty, because the 056 firms were not given a fair hearing. Though the Knesset Economics Committee did have a hearing on the subject, Amster charged, committee chairman Gideon Peit (Likud) had decided in advance that the 056 services were "disgusting" and should be stopped at any price.

Delek to supply 47% of IEC's '95 oil

DELEK will supply 47 percent of Israel Electric Corp.'s (IEC) oil in 1995, IEC announced yesterday.

IEC will buy NIS 1 billion of solar and crude oil next year. The board of directors' senior tender committee agreed to allocate 47% of the supply contract to Delek, 22% to Sonol, 14% to Dor Energy, 9% to Paz and 8% to foreign firms.

This year, Delek supplied 51% of IEC's oil purchases, followed by Sonol at 21%, Dor at 12%, Paz at 6% and two foreign firms at 10%.

In other news, IEC said it recently transferred to the government NIS 39m., the firm's last dividend payment from 1993 earnings, bringing the total from last year's profits to NIS 67m.

Interpharm profits fall to \$815,000

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN

INTERPHARM Laboratories reported third-quarter net profits of \$815,000 compared with \$2.3 million in the same period last year. Revenues for the quarter were \$12.8m., down from \$13.2m. in 1993. Earnings per share were \$0.13 compared with \$0.38.

Net profits for the nine-month period ending September 30 were \$2.4m. compared with \$4.8m. last year, on revenues of \$37.7m., down from \$38.4m. in 1993. Earnings per share fell to \$0.36 compared with \$0.77.

● Clal Insurance reported third-quarter net profits of NIS 20.2m., up from net profits of NIS 11.9m. in the same period last year. The company ended the first nine months of the year with net profits of NIS 12.6m. compared with net profits of NIS 40.2m. in 1993.

● Rasco reported third-quarter net losses of NIS 184,000 compared with net losses of NIS 685,000 in the same period last year. The construction company had revenues of NIS 6.3m. compared with

NIS 1.6m. in 1993.

● Middle East Tube recorded third-quarter net profits of NIS 1.7m. compared with NIS 1.7m. in the same period last year, on revenues of NIS 49.4m. compared with NIS 65.8m. in 1993. Quarterly earnings per share dropped to NIS 0.07 compared with NIS 0.199 last year.

● Nisko recorded third-quarter net profits of NIS 4.1m. compared with NIS 1.7m., on revenues of NIS 20.5m. compared with NIS 15.8m. in the same period last year.

● Off Tese reported third-quarter net losses of NIS 1.6m. compared with net profits of NIS 38,000, on revenues of NIS 24.8m. compared with NIS 19.7m. in 1993.

● Trendline Information and Communication Services (Kav Manhe) recorded third-quarter net profits of NIS 514,550 compared with NIS 567,972, on revenues of NIS 4.8m. compared with NIS 4m. in the same period last year.

Bezek earnings fall to NIS 114m.

JUDY SIEGEL

BEZEK recorded net profits of NIS 114m. in the third quarter, down from NIS 165.5m. in the same quarter last year, the company announced yesterday.

During the first nine months of the year, the concern's net profit was NIS 172.4m., compared with NIS 325m. in the corresponding period in 1993.

Bezek stock fell 4 percent in heavy trading on the TASE yesterday. Chairman Moshe Haba and Director-General Yitzhak Kaul said that since January, two "one-time events" caused an unexpected NIS 500m. expense increase — new wage agreements and the setting aside of NIS 275m. for compensation for workers who retire early.

In addition, Bezek's domestic rates have eroded by 14% since the beginning of the year.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patel (foreign currency deposit rates) (23.11.94)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (250,000)	5.250	5.200	5.125	
U.S. dollar (250,000)	4.875	4.875	5.000	
German mark (250,000)	4.125	4.250	4.375	
Swiss franc (250,000)	2.875	3.000	3.375	
Yen (10 million)	0.750	0.875	1.250	

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (22.11.94)				
Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy
U.S. dollar	3.2540	3.4110	100	3.3885
German mark	1.9410	1.9530	100	1.9847
French franc	4.7817	4.7995	100	4.7820
Japanese yen (100)	2.5913	2.5930	100	2.5915
Swiss franc	1.7250	1.7260	100	1.7443
Swedish krona	0.4103	0.4161	100	0.4207
Norwegian krona	0.4420	0.4462	100	0.4428
Danish krone	0.4692	0.4732	100	0.4698
Finland mark	0.4698	0.4732	100	0.4698
Canadian dollar	2.1901	2.2271	100	2.2183
Australian dollar	2.2572	2.2598	100	2.2583
S. African rand	0.8616	0.8698	100	0.8698
Belgian franc (10)	0.9439	0.9572	100	0.9572
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7331	2.7320	100	2.7331
Italian lira (1000)	1.8883	1.9150	100	1.9150
Japanese yen (100)	—	—	100	1.9011
Spanish peseta (100)	—	—	100	0.9599
ECU	3.5995	3.7487	100	3.7487
US dollar	4.0748	4.2404	100	4.2404
Spanish peseta (100)	2.5289	2.5828	100	2.5828

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

SET OUT BELOW IS A FREE TRANSLATION PROVIDED FOR PURPOSES OF CONVENIENCE ONLY OF THE NOTICE PUBLISHED ON NOVEMBER 21, 1994 IN THE NEWSPAPERS YEDIOT AHARONOT, MA'ARIV AND HA'ARETZ.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

BY
CLAL INSURANCE COMPANY LTD.
(THE "OFFEROR")

THAT

On November 20, 1994, the Offeror filed with the Israeli Securities Authority (the "Authority"), the Companies Registrar (the "Registrar"), the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (the "TASE") and ARARAT INSURANCE COMPANY LTD. (the "Company"), a purchase offer plan by way of a specification in accordance with the "Securities Regulations" ("Purchase Offer"). 1994 (the "Purchase Offer Regulations") directed to all of the holders of the Ordinary Shares of N.I.S. 1 (one), nominal value, each, of the Company (all of the above-mentioned holders being hereinafter referred to as: the "Holders"), to purchase from the Holders all of the shares held by them in the Company (the "Specification").

The Specification is dated November 20, 1994.

The Specification provides for the following:

- The Offeror is interested to purchase from the Holders all of the Ordinary Shares of N.I.S. 1 (one), nominal value, each, of the Company held by the Holders (the "Shares"), on the terms of the Purchase Offer.
- The purchase price which the Offeror shall pay is N.I.S. 17.5 per share (1,750%). The last price per share on the TASE prior to the date of the Specification, namely, November 17, 1994, being the last trading day before the Purchase Offer was made, was N.I.S. 13.90 (1,390%).
- The Purchase Offer shall be carried out through Bank Hapoalim B.M., a member of the TASE ("Hapoalim"), in the manner as prescribed in the Specification.
- Notices of acceptance may be delivered on Monday, December 5, 1994 and Tuesday, December 6, 1994, between the hours of 08:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon, and all of this in the manner as prescribed in the Specification.

A Non-Registered Holder shall deliver its notice of acceptance to TASE members on the above-mentioned days in accordance with the provisions as contained in Section 8.1 of the Specification.

A Registered Holder shall deliver its notice of acceptance to Hapoalim at its offices situated at 48 Yehuda HaLevi Street, corner of 2 Tiyomkin Street, (6th floor, room 611) Tel Aviv, in accordance with the provisions as contained in Section 8.2 of the Specification.

In the event of notices of acceptance being delivered by Holders to the Offeror in respect of 90% or more of the Shares, the Offeror shall in accordance with the provisions contained in Section 236 of the Companies Ordinance (New Version), of 1983, purchase at the Purchase Offer price, as specified in paragraph 2 above, the entire remaining balance of the Shares of the Holders who did not submit notices of acceptance to the Purchase Offer.

COPIES OF THE FULL TEXT OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE OBTAINED AT BANK BRANCHES, AT THE OFFICES OF TASE MEMBERS AND AT HAPOALIM AT ITS ABOVE ADDRESS. COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION SHALL BE SENT TO THE HOLDERS REGISTERED IN THE BOOKS OF THE COMPANY AT THEIR ADDRESSES AS REGISTERED THEREIN.

THE SPECIFICATION, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE COMPLETE TEXT CONTAINED THEREIN, IS AND SHALL BE THE ONLY BINDING INSTRUMENT AND NOTHING IN THIS NOTICE NOR IN THE CONTENTS THEREOF SHALL BIND THE OFFEROR NOR CONSTITUTE ANY OFFER OR BID WHATSOEVER ON THE PART OF THE OFFEROR.

Please note that N.I.S. denotes New Israeli Sheqalim.

* 1994 - תשנ"ד (הוצאת רשמי, תשנ"ד)

Clal Insurance Company Ltd.

Bilbao downs Parma, 1-0

BILBAO (AP) — Spanish giant Athletic de Bilbao used a goal early in the second half by Jose Angel Ziganda to defeat Italian league leaders Parma 1-0 yesterday in a third-round, first-leg UEFA Cup game.

The Basque side, which holds down a modest sixth place in the 20-team Spanish first division, eliminated English side Newcastle earlier this month in the second round. Ziganda also scored the decisive goal to oust Newcastle, which was the Premier League leader at the time.

Athletic de Bilbao, which held a slight edge in play in the first half

against a tough Parma defense, got the winning goal in the 48th minute on Ziganda's header.

Spanish international Juan Antonio Goicoechea set up the scoring play when he brought the ball down the right side and lofted a crossing pass to Ziganda, who headed it home.

The Italian league leaders appeared to have scored minutes later, but the goal was disallowed when a Parma player was ruled to have pushed the Bilbao goalie.

Athletic de Bilbao, which outlasted Parma throughout the match, had better chances to score than the Italians in a very tight,

defensive first half. CKS Katowice 1, Bayer Leverkusen 4. Ulf Kirsten and Hans Peter Lehnhoff each scored two goals in Bayer Leverkusen's third-round, first-leg match yesterday.

Kirsten opened the scoring in the 30th minute on a header from six meters out after receiving a pass from Lehnhoff.

In the 41st minute, Lehnhoff raised the score to 2-0, and Kirsten added his second goal from 10 meters away in the 44th minute on a pass from Andreas Thom.

Andrzej Nikodem scored the only goal for Katowice in the 54th minute after a corner kick.

Lehnhoff made it 4-1 in the 65th minute, shooting from inside the penalty box.

Everton wins Liverpool derby

LIVERPOOL (AP) — Everton celebrated Joe Royle's managerial debut with a 2-0 victory Monday night over Merseyside rival Liverpool, lifting the Goodison Park club off the bottom of the Premier League standings for the first time since September 10.

Duncan Ferguson, on a two-month loan from Scottish club Rangers, scored in the 57th minute and set up substitute Paul Rideout's goal in the 89th as Everton won the 151st meeting between the two teams.

It was Everton's second victory in 17 games this season, and its second in 15 league games. The club improved to 20th place in the 22-team league, ahead of Ipswich and Leicester. Liverpool remained fourth.

The 39,866 fans at Goodison celebrated wildly Everton's seventh victory over the Reds in the teams' last 42 meetings.

Meanwhile, Brian Little resigned yesterday as manager of Leicester, clearing the way for a possible return to Aston Villa.

Little, 40, took over at Leicester in 1991 and guided the club into the Premier League this season. But the club has struggled and currently lies at the bottom of the standings with just two wins and nine points in 14 games.

Little is expected to be named as successor to Ron Atkinson, who was fired last week as manager of Villa.

Dykstra stands firm

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Lenny Dykstra says he won't crack under the pressure of the Major League Baseball strike, although players without multimillion-dollar contracts probably will.

"Remember, we don't know what goes on behind closed doors in these guys' lives," the Philadelphia Phillies center fielder said in Monday's editions of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

"Suppose they made some bad investments or are going through a messy divorce? They might need the money. They're all going to have to weigh whether they can afford to miss a paycheck."

Dykstra forfeited \$800,000 in salary for the unplayed portion of the 1994 season and said he will begin losing \$500,000 a month if there is no settlement by April. Still, he says, he will not defect from the Players Association and not report for spring training before the strike is resolved. Eleven months ago, he signed a \$24.9 million contract extension.

"I've taken steps to ensure the financial security of my family, and I haven't had to change my lifestyle yet," he said. "But right now the only thing happening with money in my life is that it's going out. For the first time in a long while, when an expense comes up I have to stop and give it a lot of thought."

Dykstra predicts baseball will return in 1995, only he's not sure who will be playing.

"Soon the owners are going to say, 'OK, here's the bats, here's the balls,'" he told the *Inquirer*. "If you want to play, come and get 'em.' That's going to put a lot of people under a lot of pressure. The fact that it's come down to this is sickening."

Though Dykstra avows himself a union man, he said both sides are being selfish.

"We're damaging the game, and anybody who thinks we aren't is an idiot," he said.

Meanwhile, owners, preparing to impose their salary cap, on Monday scheduled a major league meeting for December 5 in Chicago.

The move, which wasn't announced publicly but was confirmed by several officials, means owners will gather just two days before the deadline for teams to offer salary arbitration to their former players who became free agents.

Owners don't want another winter of arbitration and are set on eliminating the process, which began in 1974.

Management negotiator John Harrington has said it is possible owners will decide at that meeting to attempt to impose the cap, their right under federal labor law. On the grievance front, owners agreed Monday to let arbitrator George Nicolaus hear cases involving players on the disabled list during the strike and players who were called up from the minors and put on strike.

Johnson's last-second heroics preserve win for Hapoel TA

JOEL GORDIN

HAPOEL Tel Aviv racked up a 109-103 home win over SWH-Broceni of Riga in a European Cup game last night.

After cruising in front of their opponents for almost the entire game, Hapoel watched its lead whittled away in the closing minutes by a barrage of accurate three-pointers. With 17 seconds to go, Hapoel found itself leading by only two points (105-103). However, Milton Wagner kept cool with two accurate free throws and, in the last seconds of the Latvians' final attempt to snatch the game, Buck Johnson grabbed a steal. The "Pink Panther" sent the "old fox" Mickey Berkowitz off on a coast-to-coast run to slam in the final basket for the six-point win.

Hapoel had started the game with a storm, leading 8-0 in the first 30 seconds. However, the Latvians realized they had to come back fast on defense against such

speedy movers as Johnson, Wagner, Gilad Katz and Lior Arditi. The visitors recovered to stay in the game. Their main weapon was outside shooting based on their two excellent snipers, Carlos Mezenik and Gunder Vitra.

For 10 minutes, the Latvians pressed hard and evened the score at 17-17. Then they seemed to run out of steam. Tel Aviv coach Zvi Sherf replaced Katz with Berkowitz, and the 40-year-old veteran and Johnson both ran fast and shot true to send Hapoel down to the locker room with a 55-43 lead.

Tel Aviv's first-half shooting was hard to fault: A 75 percent success rate from the inside and 65% from three-point range. But the defense, except for Arditi, was shaky.

Tel Aviv continued to surge

ahead after the break. Johnson, Wagner and Arditi executed some great fastbreaks, all resulting from Ofer Fleisher's dominating presence under the boards.

Berkowitz put in his best game in the colors of Hapoel Tel Aviv. It was the sly, cheeky Mickey of old on the court, doling out assists behind his back, stealing the ball practically out of the opponents' hands, and sinking 17 of his own.

Johnson led all scorers with a hefty 37, Wagner hit for 26 and Arditi joined Berkowitz with 17 apiece.

Special mention should be made of Arditi's defense of Vitra; without the bulky Lior on his back, this dangerous player could have taken much more than his helping of 32.

Mezenik hit 23, and Melnik contributed 12.

Next week, the Hapoelites face Spain's Targues, a far stronger team.

Giants halt 7-game skid

HOUSTON (AP) — New coach, same result for the Houston Oilers. David Treadwell kicked a 37-yard field goal with 2 seconds to play Monday night to help the New York Giants snap a seven-game losing streak with a 13-10 victory over the Oilers, who lost for the seventh straight time.

Houston's loss — its third in a row and sixth of the season by three points — ruined the coaching debut of Jeff Fisher, who replaced Jack Pardee last Monday and ditched Houston's run-and-shoot offense.

The result was a plodding running attack and a less-than-explosive game between two teams having all sorts of problems this season.

"It's not the way I wanted to start off," Fisher said. "But we'll take tomorrow off and then come back and start getting ready for the next game."

Kent Graham, who replaced Dave Brown in the first half after the Giants' starter sustained a concussion, rallied the Giants after a scoreless first half and gave New York a 5-0 all-time record against the Oilers.

Graham threw a 40-yard touchdown pass to Mike Sherrard and set up Treadwell's first field goal, a 26-yarder, with a 55-yard pass to Sherrard.

"We were just throwing the ball up high, giving him a chance to come down with it," Graham said. "It was frustrating early on. I just want to keep getting better every week."

"It's nice to see them get some reward for all the hard work they've put in," Giants coach Dan Reeves said. The Giants ended their longest losing streak since 1980.

Fisher turned the play-calling over to offensive coordinator Dick Coury, but the Oilers didn't get into the end zone until 4:44 remained in the third quarter on Toliver's one-yard keeper.

The score came one play after Toliver completed a 41-yard screen pass to Lorenzo White, who was knocked out of bounds at the 1 by Jesse Campbell.

"I ran to the sidelines and told Dick that it was wide open," White said. "That's the relationship the players have with the coaches. The next play that's what they called. My hat goes off to the offensive staff."

New York led 10-7 with 8:19 to play, but the Oilers tied it with 4:08 left on Al Del Greco's 42-yard field goal.

The Oilers, who ranked among the top offensive teams in the NFL in recent years with the run-and-shoot, didn't use the four-wide receivers alignment in the first half. Instead, they gave the ball to White, who had eight carries for 40 yards in the first quarter and 116 yards by halftime. He finished with a career-high 156 yards on 27 carries.

"It's frustration for the entire coaching staff to lose a game like this," Fisher said. "We played good enough to win, but we made a few mistakes and beat ourselves." Hampton had 122 yards on 34 carries and Graham was 6-of-13 for 105 yards.

Fisher, whose defense blitzes fearlessly, showed he wasn't afraid to take chances on offense too, going for a first down on fourth-and-1 at the Giants' 40 in the second quarter.

"I elected to go for it, it was either going to be a touchdown or an incomplete pass," Fisher said. The try failed, and New York drove to a third-and-10 at the Oilers' 20. But the Giants never got to kick because Graham took the snap with 14 seconds left and scrambled away all the time.

Brown, who won his starting job back at the beginning of the week, received a concussion when he was tackled by linebacker Lamar Lathon in the second quarter.

Israeli to receive rehabilitation prize

ARYEH Fink, chairman of the Israel Sport Association for the Disabled, will travel to Bordeaux, France next month to receive the Rehabilitation Prize from the International Federation of Demobilized Soldiers.

Fink was formerly head of the rehabilitation branch of the Defense Ministry.

Hardaway has Magic touch

ORLANDO (AP) — Anfernee Hardaway has no illusions about his role with the Orlando Magic.

"To score is Shaquille's job. Nick Anderson is the shooting guard and I am the point guard. It's just my job to get the offense started."

That's usually the case, but it wasn't on Monday night.

Hardaway scored 17 of his 30 points in the third quarter as the Atlantic Division leaders broke open a close game with O'Neal on the bench and beat the Miami Heat 124-89.

"This is a breakthrough game for me," said Hardaway, whose career high is 32 points. "But I don't think this is going to happen every night. In fact, I know this isn't going to happen every night."

O'Neal returned from foul trouble to lead a 21-3 surge at the start of the fourth period. He finished with 22 points — 10 below his NBA-leading average — in 28 minutes.

Orlando led 64-61 when O'Neal left with his fourth foul. The Magic then built the advantage to 14 with Hardaway going 11-for-11 from the foul line and nearly matching the Heat's third-quarter production of 19 points.

"That's where the game turned around," Miami coach Kevin Loughery said. "We got Shaq in foul trouble and we didn't take advantage of it."

Hardaway, who was 14-for-14 overall from the line, sat out the entire fourth quarter. That was hardly relief for Miami, which managed only 17 points in the last 12 minutes.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Portland 1 0 1.000 0.5

Golden State 1 0 1.000 0.5

Phoenix 1 0 1.000 0.5

Utah 1 0 1.000 0.5

San Antonio 1 0 1.000 0.5

Minnesota 1 0 1.000 0.5

Pacific Division

Los Angeles 1 0 1.000 0.5

Seattle 1 0 1.000 0.5

Portland 1 0 1.000 0.5

San Jose 1 0 1.000 0.5

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TURNING OFF THE HEAT — Orlando Magic's Shaquille O'Neal blocks a shot by the Heat's Bimbo Coles.

Jazz 106, Suns 91. Kevin Johnson was hobbling and John Perry left with a concussion. Elton Stokley took advantage.

Stockton had 25 points and 12 assists to lead host Utah over the injury-ravaged Suns, who also were without forwards Charles Barkley and Wayman Tisdale.

It was team defense that won it for us," Knicks coach Pat Riley said. That was very satisfying, because no one person did any one thing that decided the game. When you can say that and still defeat a quality basketball team, that's a good sign."

David Robinson had 29 points, including 10 in the fourth quarter, and 12 rebounds, and Chuck Person added 17 points for San Antonio.

MONDAY'S RESULTS: New York 92, San Antonio 88; Orlando 124, Miami 89; Utah 106, Phoenix 91.

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CRICKET — India beat the West Indies yesterday in Bombay by 96 runs and went up 1-0 in the three match series. Chasing a victory target of 363 runs, the Caribbean team could add only 14 runs to their overnight score of 252 for eight. India's pace bowler Javagal Srinath, who scored 60 valuable runs in India's first innings and claimed four wickets in the second innings for 48 runs, was declared man of the match.

Eli Dayan drafts import ban on non-kosher meat

LABOR faction chairman Eli Dayan sought to head off a new crisis with Shas yesterday by drafting a bill banning all non-kosher meat imports.

Shas announced on Monday it would irrevocably join the opposition if the government went ahead with its decision to start issuing licenses for the private import of non-frozen meat, whether kosher or non-kosher, on January 1. At Shas' demand, the Knesset several months ago passed a bill banning the import of non-kosher frozen meat. However, the legislation did not refer to other meat products.

Dayan's move came as a surprise. It was expected that, to save

DAN IZENBERG

time, the initiative would come from the government. Private member's bills require a waiting period of 45 days before they can be put to a vote. They also require preliminary approval, unlike bills submitted by the government.

But Dayan said the government could vote to waive the waiting period and his move saves time because it would take too long for the government to draft its own proposal.

He stressed that his move had the backing of the government and the party. There have been reports that several Labor and Meretz

MKs would vote against the bill. Dayan said the bill was not only important for political reasons. "We are determined not to allow the import of non-kosher meat for reasons of religious tradition and to protect local producers," he said.

Meanwhile, the National Religious Party and United Torah Judaism have called for a no-confidence vote on the issue. The two factions stated that the decision of the Ministry of Industry and Trade to grant permits to private importers would "lead to an unprecedented flood of non-kosher meat into the country."

Cattle farmers will suffer, Page 8

Police: Unregistered contractor was in charge at cement mixer tragedy

THE man in charge of construction at the site of Monday night's cement mixer disaster in Haifa, in which four members of the Dakwar family were crushed to death, was not a registered contractor, a police check revealed.

Police interviewed the man in charge of the work - a relative of lawyer Imad Dakwar, whose wife, mother and two children died in the accident - but the inquiry was postponed when it became clear he was in deep shock.

The driver, who was lightly injured in the tragedy, and a worker who had been directing the vehicle have been detained for questioning and are due to appear in Haifa Magistrate's Court today.

Supt. Shimon Shetreet, who is heading the inquiries, said the possibility that the deaths were caused by negligence is being investigated.

DAVID RUDGE

"The driver, 21, from Kiryat Ata, said he had already made and unloaded one delivery of cement and there had previously been two others," said Shetreet.

"He said that the tragedy occurred when he suddenly felt the truck slip and fall. We will be checking the vehicle from the mechanical point of view and the site is being examined by experts from the Labor Ministry," added the officer.

The concrete mixer was bringing cement for the roof of an extension at the family home on Rehov Shimon B'November.

Dakwar was on the roof as the mixer was maneuvering. His mother, Lea, wife of Imad, 32, son Basil, 8, and daughter Ullah, 4, were in the yard below watching when the truck toppled onto them,

crushing them to death.

Dakwar's eldest son, Jalal, 11, was visiting a neighbor at the time and was returning when the disaster occurred.

A post mortem was carried out on the bodies of the four at the Abu Kabir forensic institute yesterday. They are to be buried in the family's home village of Tarsheh today.

Dakwar told reporters that he saw the mixer reversing and there was a sound as if the air had gone out of it and it had gone off its track.

"I shouted to my wife, my mother, and my children, who were just giving drinks to the workers. I jumped from the roof to try and move them out of the way, but the truck fell onto them," he said.

As of yesterday evening, efforts to remove the concrete mixer were continuing.

Trans-Israel Highway may pay over the odds for land

EVELYN GORDON

PEOPLE whose lands are confiscated for the Trans-Israel Highway would be compensated for more than the current value of the property, according to an amendment to the Trans-Israel Highway bill that seems likely to pass the Knesset Finance Committee.

Originally, the bill specified that compensation would be paid according to the lands' value prior to the sale. However, several MKs said this was cheating the farmers, and demanded that compensation be according to the lands' value after the sale.

In response to the committee's objections, the Treasury rewrote the bill to say that assessments would be made according to existing expropriation law. This law states that compensation should be based on the price "a voluntary buyer and a voluntary seller" would agree to. Since most buyers would raise their price once they know someone is interested, this is usually more than the value of the land before the sale.

However, even this was not enough for some of the MKs. Elie Goldschmidt (Labor) walked out of the meeting in fury, demanding that the bill explicitly state compensation should be based on the price a voluntary buyer and seller would agree to, rather than merely referring to existing law. Goldschmidt said that by stating this principle explicitly, it would carry more weight if compensation disputes ever came to court.

"Stressing [this matter] more could also give it more weight in the [governmental] compensation committee [which sets the compensation]," added committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor), who said at the end of the meeting that he is "inclined to support" Goldschmidt's demand.

Another proposal being debated by the committee is Likud MK Ariel Weinstein's suggestion that the new expropriation procedures set down by the bill initially be applied only to the first stage of the road, which comprises some 70 kilometers in the central region. Their application could then be extended if they seem to be working well.

Shmuel Avital (Labor) said he supported this idea.

"We're talking about [a project] that will take 10 years," he said. "We need a bit of caution."

However, Gal said he opposed the idea, precisely because there would be plenty of time later to amend the law if it appears not to be working.

"I don't think you should make a law about one piece [of a road]," he said.

Meanwhile, Trans-Israel Highway Corporation chairman Moshe Levy said his main hope was that the bill passes soon, since work on the road is at a halt until it does.

"If we had known a year ago what we know today, we could have operated just as quickly under existing law," he said wryly.

Labor council head: Rabin speaks with two voices

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

LABOR council secretaries and workers' representatives yesterday blasted Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin for abandoning them in the face of Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon's plans to fire hundreds of Histadrut workers and weaken workers' rights.

At an emergency meeting at Beit Brenner, some 50 council leaders decided to form a group within Labor to translate their numbers into political power. They said the meeting was part of their ongoing campaign against Ramon's plans to fire 700 labor council workers and destroy the Histadrut.

They are scheduled to meet with Rabin next week, when they will formulate their position on their future activity in the Labor Party.

Pimla Kabbalo, chairman of the labor council secretaries, said Rabin had "spoken with two voices" at the secretaries' meeting with him last week. "At the meeting Rabin voiced support for the workers and our fight against Ramon, then went outside and told the media, with complete obsequiousness, that 'they're [the workers' representatives] are all cry babies and should stop whining.'"

The head of the new group, Nahariya Labor Council Secretary Asher Shmueli said, "This will be a dominant group, consisting of grassroots activists, wielding considerable political power."

"Now that the primaries are approaching, we will settle accounts with all the traitors. Every minister and MK who wants to campaign in a city, town, or village will have to come to us; then we'll see how all these heroes speak against us."

The secretaries resolved to oppose any reduction of the cost of living raise, and demanded that Ramon speak out clearly about workers' rights.

Speakers protested Ramon's cuts in labor council secretaries' wages at the same time a number of his colleagues on the Histadrut executive, who had no operative position at all, were enjoying the bloated wages of a Histadrut section head. They cited Ya'acov Yishai (Ram), Efraim Ziloni (Mapam), Michel Elmaliah and Yehuda Avidan (Shas) as cases in point.

Petah Tikva school sanctions

Teachers in Petah Tikva high schools yesterday sent pupils home at 9 a.m. after they failed to receive their October salaries. A spokesman for the teachers' union said last night that classes would again be stopped in Petah Tikva this morning unless teachers' wages were paid.



The brother and sister of the Tel Aviv bus bomber, Salah Naze, pose by the remains of the family home, destroyed Monday night by the IDF. Dozens of left-wing activists demonstrated at the entrance to Kalkilya yesterday against the demolition, waving placards reading, "No to collective punishment," and "Destruction of homes won't stop terror." (Khaled Zighar)

Namir: Lowering COL hike would hurt the poor

EVELYN GORDON

LABOR Minister Ora Namir yesterday lashed out at the proposed package deal to lower the cost-of-living increase, saying it would hurt the poor.

She also attacked the recent hikes in interest rates.

The package deal would trade a 2.2 percent decrease in the increase for a 1.4 percent decrease in the national health tax.

Namir, speaking after a Knesset Finance Committee meeting, charged that lowering the increase would primarily hurt low-income families and those living on National Insurance Institute allowances, because they are barely making enough to keep up with inflation as it is. If inflation is allowed to significantly outpace wage increases, many more people will be pushed below the poverty line, she said.

"I don't know who is behind this package," Namir said. "But the agreement has not yet been brought to the government, and it is not a closed deal."

"In general, the steps that have been taken recently have hurt the weaker populations," she continued, specifically citing the rise in interest rates.

Because low-income families are more likely to be in overdraft, she explained, they are the first to be hurt by higher interest rates.

In her presentation to the committee, Namir also blasted the fact that companies receiving government subsidies are not willing to hire the unemployed and train them. She cited the case of Dead Sea Works, which, she said, did not want to hire a group of unemployed people for a new factory built with government aid.

Government grants, she said, should be conditional on companies agreeing to hire and retrain the unemployed, because ultimately, only increased employment can reduce poverty.

Namir also told the committee that the number of people receiving income maintenance payments and/or welfare has jumped 150% in the last five years, mainly due to immigration.

Drug bust nets 8 kilos of heroin

RAINE MARCUS

A KNOWN underworld figure was arrested yesterday in possession of 8 kilograms of heroin, specially wrapped into packages and worth several million shekels.

The 37-year-old Rishon LeZion man has been a target of Tel Aviv detectives for the past few months. Yesterday afternoon they waited outside a house in a Rishon LeZion suburb and when the two suspects

masked man who tried to rob him and stabbed him to death during a struggle.

Detectives have been following the man and his 40-year-old accomplice for the past few months. Yesterday afternoon they waited outside a house in a Rishon LeZion suburb and when the two suspects

left arrested them after a short chase.

In the house, police discovered harmless powder for mixing with drugs, scales and 8 kilograms of a substance believed to be heroin, hidden in a cupboard. More arrests are likely, said police. The two are expected to appear in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court for a remand hearing tomorrow.

17% of eligible men received IDF exemptions this year

DAN IZENBERG

THE army exempted 17 percent of all men eligible for the draft in 1994, Manpower Branch chief Maj.-Gen. Yoram Ya'ir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday. During that time, the proportion of yeshiva students who were not drafted has more than doubled.

Of those exempted in 1994, 4.8% were yeshiva students, 5.2% lived abroad and 4.2% were released on medical grounds.

In 1974, 12% of those eligible for the draft were exempted, including 2% who were yeshiva students.

Ya'ir found that the percentage of women released from the army has shrunk from 50% in 1974 to 31% this year. The number of women exempted because they were married has

dropped from 8.1% in 1974 to 1.5% this year.

The army granted early releases to more than 15% of the conscripts this year, 4.6% for medical reasons, 4.5% because they were found unsuitable, 2.4% because they had financial problems, and 3.8% from cutbacks.

Ya'ir told the committee the army drafted 800 more youths from poorer segments of the population in 1994 than the previous year, but that according to statistical projections, 42% of the soldiers in this socio-economic group will not complete three years of service.

The Manpower Branch chief said the army had revolutionized its system for inducing soldiers. Currently, it begins the induction process

while the candidates are still in school so that on the day of their mobilization, it has already processed them. As a result, 85% of the conscripts are assigned to the units they want.

Ya'ir added that the process of assigning soldiers to the army's elite units had also been radically changed. In the past, all candidates for all the units had been assembled together and undergone several days of testing before being assigned to their units. Today, the selection process takes one day.

The army is also allowing students more time to pass their matriculation exams before being drafted. Soon, students who want to study at university before joining the army will be given two years to obtain their degree before being inducted, said Ya'ir.

Knesset panel demands cheaper cars for IDF generals

Original decision to buy Peugeot 605s made on basis of false information

EVELYN GORDON

THE government must reconsider its decision to buy Peugeot 605s for senior IDF officers, since the purchase violates government guidelines and was made on the basis of false information, the Knesset State Control Committee's subcommittee on the IDF demanded yesterday.

Ilan Flato, economic adviser to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, said that if it is true that he was misled, there is certainly reason to reopen the contract.

The Peugeot cost NIS 142,000 apiece, compared to NIS 121,000 for the Toyota Carina, which is used by ministry directors-general, and NIS 114,000 for the Mazda

626. According to Harry Langman, head of the government's vehicle authority, this is 16 percent more than the maximum price permitted for government cars.

Langman also said the Peugeot failed to meet the requirement of having first been used successfully by the private sector before being bought by the government.

Flato said that when he signed the contract, he had been told 24 Peugeot 605s had already been sold here, and this was enough to permit Peugeot to participate in the contract. However, Langman said, this information was

misleading, because 20 of those sales were the IDF purchases in question. Only four have been sold to the private sector, he said.

Subcommittee chairman Uzi Landau (Likud) said that while it is important for senior officers to have the type of vehicle they need, this purchase appears to have been made to satisfy certain officers' desire for prestige, while ignoring purchasing rules.

In other news, the full State Control Committee plans to summon Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair and Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni to a dis-

cussion on the Postal Authority's construction of an NIS 80 million bank in Jerusalem, after failing to be satisfied by explanations as to why it chose the highest bid submitted.

Authority director-general Ran Levine said that money was not the main consideration. The key was that the winning company, Hepzibah, could provide a plot very close to the central bus station which was convenient for employees who had to work late and who used public transportation.

Hepzibah's bid, which the authority had originally calculated at \$664 a square meter, turned out to be \$1,118 a sq.m.

KNESSET BRIEFS

Anti-bugging bills passed

The Knesset passed two bills late Tuesday night stiffening penalties for eavesdropping and expanding the law to include listening in on mobile telephones.

Likud cancels pairing off deals

Likud faction chairman Moshe Katsav announced that all pairing off deals between the opposition and the coalition were off. Labor faction chairman Eli Dayan said the move didn't worry him, even though the government has only 61 assured votes in the 120-member chamber.

More money for war on drugs

The Health Ministry's drug addiction budget will increase from NIS 4.5 million in 1994 to NIS 22m. next year, Deputy Health Minister Nawaf Massalha told the War on Drugs Committee. Jorge Glaser, head of the ministry's addiction unit, said Ichilov Hospital has announced it is ready to dispense methadone to addicts. It is the first hospital which is prepared to treat drug addicts. Dan Izenberg

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